

STARTLING 'N SHOCKING tales

WEIRD

JUNE
1979

\$1.75

LOATHSOME
FANGED CREATURES SHATTER
THE STILL NIGHT WITH
WILD SATANIC SCREAMS

BLACKNESS OF EVIL

IT ROSE FROM
THE SMELLY COFFIN
DRIPPING ROTTING
FLESH

the SUPERNATURAL

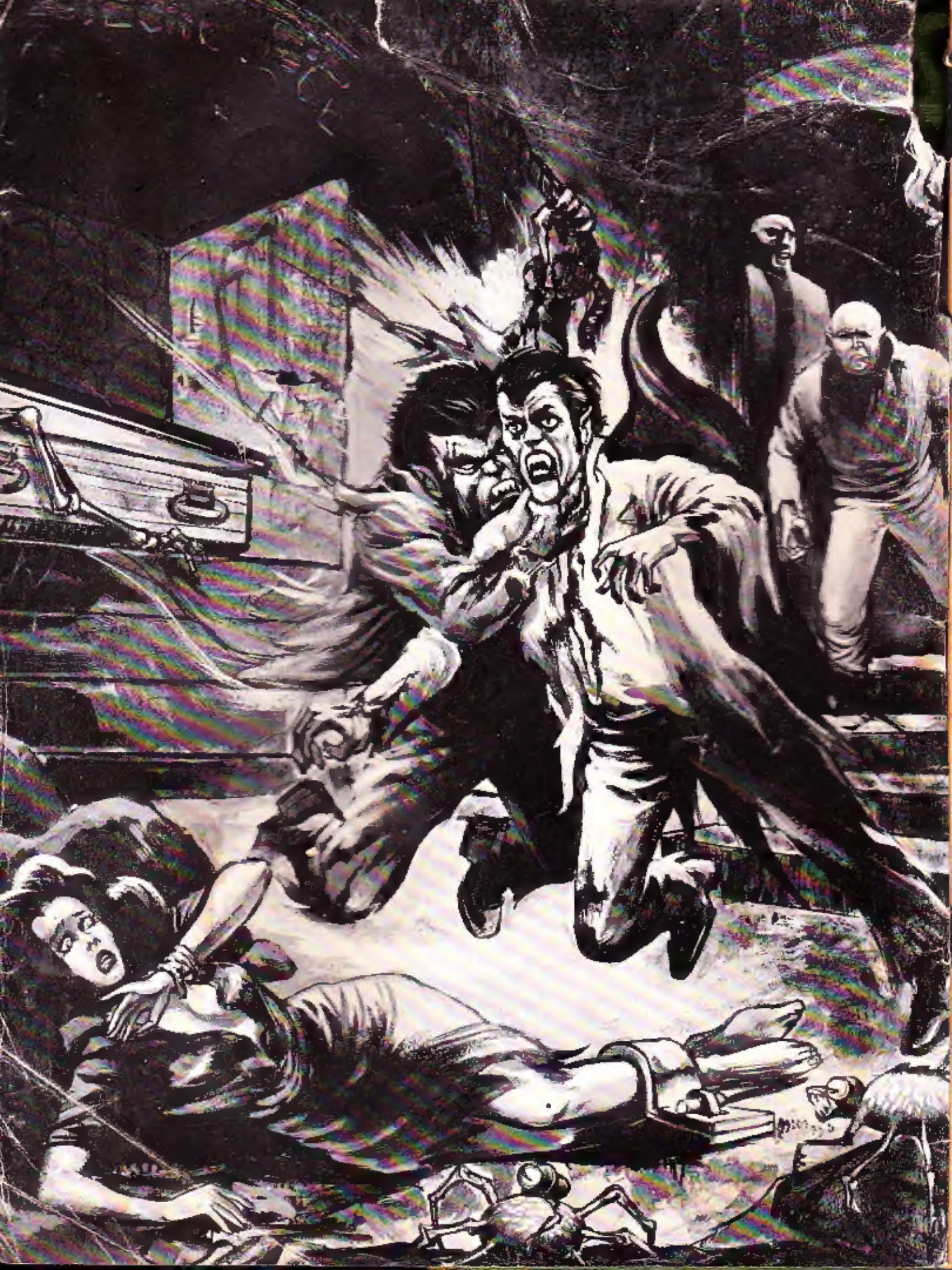
PLUS

HOUSE OF BLOOD
TOMB OF OGRES
THE DEAD WITCH

BONE-RATTLING
TERROR EXPLODES
IN

the STAGE OF HORROR







WEIRD



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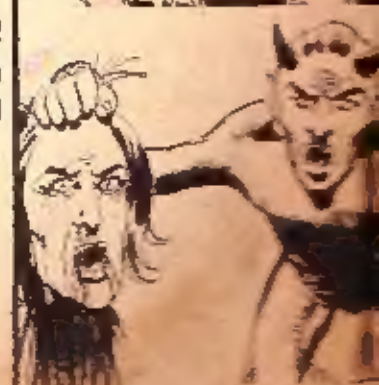
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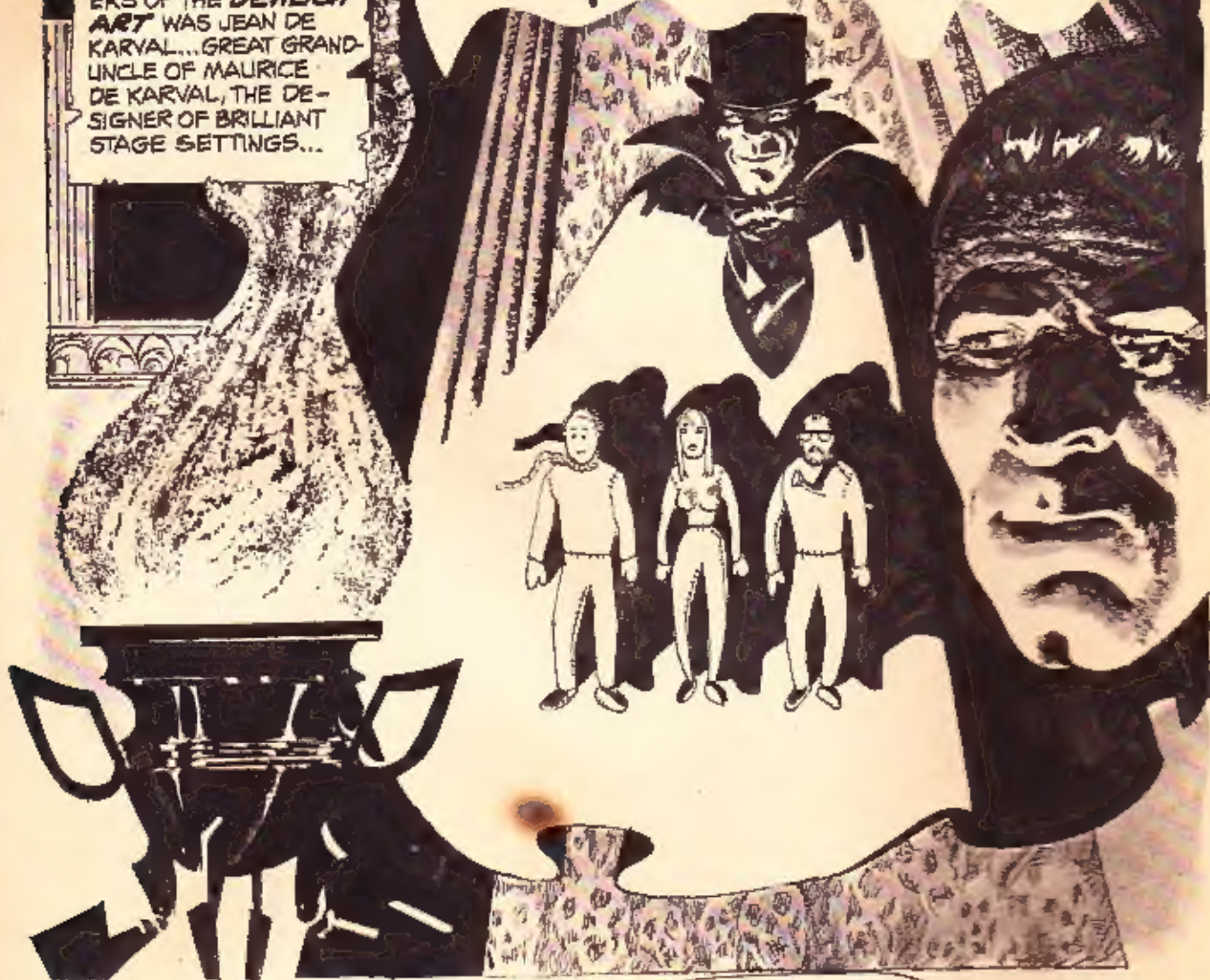
Charlie Patch's strange dream comes true with an ironic twist that will snap-your-spine with chilling horror.



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WHEN THE FRENCH OCCUPIED THE WEST INDIES IN THE 19TH CENTURY, THEY WERE FORCED TO EMPLOY **WITCH-CRAFT** TO GAIN DOMINATION OVER THE SAVAGES. ONE OF THE CHIEF PRACTITIONERS OF THE **DEVILISH ART** WAS JEAN DE KARVAL... GREAT GRAND-UNCLE OF MAURICE DE KARVAL, THE DESIGNER OF BRILLIANT STAGE SETTINGS...

STAGE OF HORROR



IN A NEW YORK THEATRE WHERE A PLAY IS BEING REHEARSED, MAURICE DE KARVAL'S **RASPING** VOICE RICOCHETS ALONG THE UNLIGHTED WALLS...

YOU, THOMAS MELVILLE! LEADING MAN, BAH! YOU'RE NOT FIT TO GRACE A STAGE BLESSED BY MY SETTINGS!



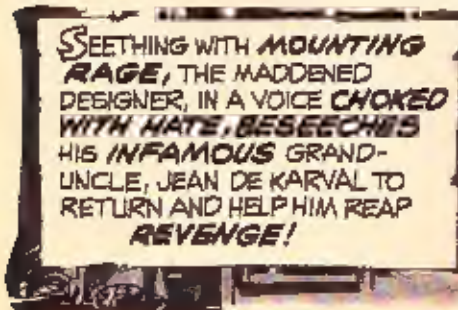
MR. DE KARVAL!
PLEASE! YOU'RE DISRUPT-
ING REHEARSAL AND
UPSETTING MY CAST!



BAH! THOMAS MELVILLE
IS NOT FIT TO PERFORM
BEFORE THE SETTINGS OF
THE GREAT MAURICE DE
KARVAL!...ADIEU!



SEETHING WITH MOUNTING
RAGE, THE MADDENED
DESIGNER, IN A VOICE CHOKED
WITH HATE, BESEECHES
HIS INFAMOUS GRAND-
UNCLE, JEAN DE KARVAL TO
RETURN AND HELP HIM REAP
REVENGE!



JEAN DE KARVAL! IF YOU
HEAR ME, APPEAR AND UN-
LEASH YOUR VOOODOO ON
THOSE FOOLS!



THE DESIGNER'S
CRAZED STARE
IS RIVETED UPON
HIS GRAND-UNCLE
WHO HAS COME
INTO VIEW...



LISTEN CLOSELY
AND KNOW YOUR
REVENGE!



THE FIENDISH SPIRIT SHOWS
MAURICE HOW TO CONSTRUCT A
DOLL-LIKE IMAGE OF ACTOR
THOMAS MELVILLE!



THAT'S IT! YOU
HAVE THE HAIR!
NOW THE
STRING!



AND NOW
PULL IT
TIGHT!

UNAWARE THAT HIS VERY **EXIST-
ENCE** IS BEING CHALLENGED, THOMAS
MELVILLE GAZES PLACIDLY OUT HIS
WINDOW AT TWO PAINTERS ON A
SCAFFOLD....WHEN SUDDENLY...

THE ROPE ATTACHED TO
THE SCAFFOLD PULLEY
SEEMINGLY **COMES**
ALIVE AND COILS
ABOUT HIS NECK...



REHEARSALS CONTINUE,
HOWEVER, AND THE
STINGING LASH
OF DE KARVAL'S WRATH
IS FELT BY CLARICE
HART, THE LEADING
LADY....

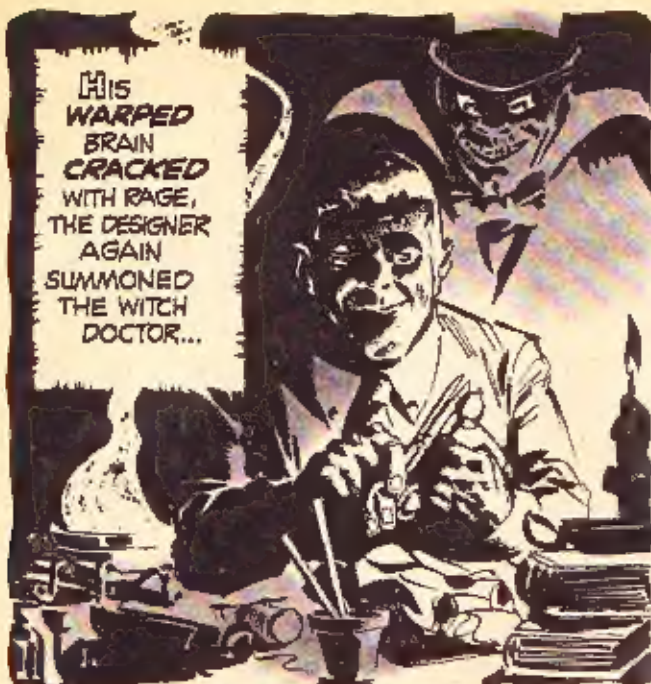
YOU CALL YOURSELF AN ACTRESS!
I GLORIFY YOU WITH INCOMPAR-
ABLE SETTINGS AND THIS IS
YOUR THANKS!



CLARICE HART,
IS IT! HEED ME
NOW, OR YOU WILL
BECOME THE **LATE**
CLARICE HART!



HIS
WARPED
BRAIN
CRACKED
WITH RAGE,
THE DESIGNER
AGAIN
SUMMONED
THE WITCH
DOCTOR...



JEAN DE KARVAL INSTRUCTS THE DESIGNER TO
EMPLOY A MODEL TRAIN TO BE....**THE**
INSTRUMENT OF DEATH!



VERY GOOD, MAURICE....
NOW RUN THE TRAIN
OVER THE
WOMAN!

ON A SUBWAY STATION, IN THE
CITY, CLARICE HART HAS A SUDDEN
DIZZY SPELL....



HEE-HEE-
--HEE--
REVENGE!



DE KARVAL'S SET
WASTED IN OPEN-
ING LAST NIGHT!

DESTINED
TO FAIL!!

POOR DIRECTING
PARTLY RESPONSIB
BELLOW IIMIWIS IVOL



AGAIN, THE DESIGNER
TURNS TO HIS
**DREADED VOODOO
WITCHCRAFT...**

YOU HAVE BETRAYED
MY MAGNIFICENT SETS
WITH YOUR FAILURE,
ELLSWORTH! NOW
YOU MUST PAY!!

A MORNING REHEARSAL
HAS BEEN CALLED TO SAL-
VAGE THE PLAY. AND AS
ELLSWORTH DIRECTS HIS
CAST, MAURICE DE KARVAL
OBSERVES HIS EVERY
MOTION WITH **HATE....**

AS DEATH
IN ALL ITS
**NAKED
VIOLENCE**
STRIKES...

SPRAK!

ELLSWORTH!
LOOK OUT!

...AND THE SOURCE OF
LIGHT IS TRANSFORMED IN-
TO THE **DELIVERER OF
DOOM...**

MY GLORIOUS MASTERPIECES!
NOT TO BE SEEN BY THE MULTITUDES
WHO SHOULD BOW THEIR HEADS
IN YOUR PRESENCE! YOUR
TRAGEDY HAS BEEN
AVENGED!

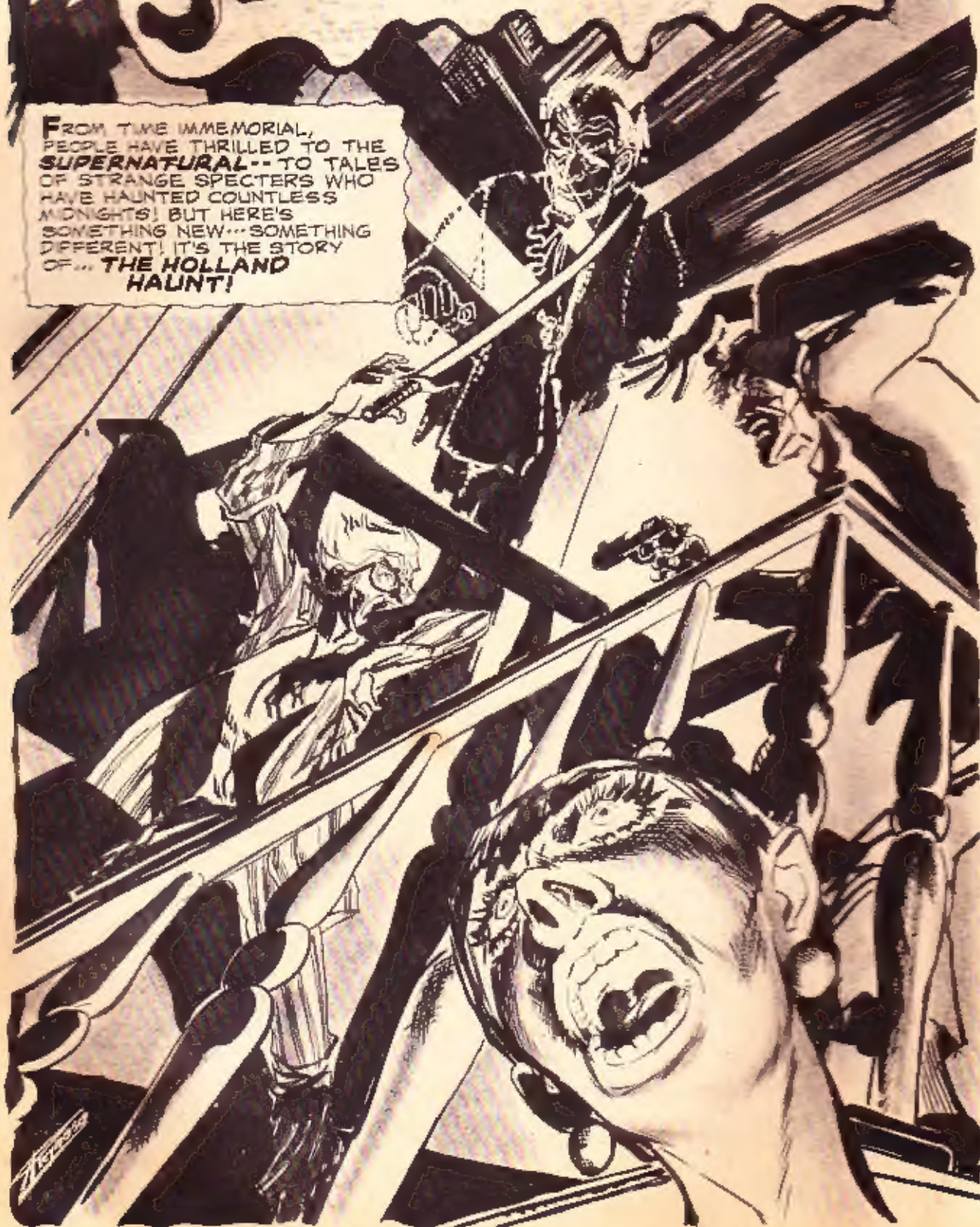
LATER THAT EVENING,
THE THEATRE **EXPLODES**
INTO A **SEARING INFER-**
NO AND IS COMPLETELY
DESTROYED... INCLUDING
THE MAD GENIUS' SUPERB
SETTINGS....

RETURNING TO HIS STUDIO, COMPLETELY UNAWARE OF THE HOLOCAUST THAT DEMOLISHED THE THEATRE, DE KARVAL DELIGHTS OVE THE ACCOMPLISHMENT OF HIS **RETRIBUTION!**



THE SUPERNATURAL

FROM TIME IMMEMORIAL,
PEOPLE HAVE THRILLED TO THE
SUPERNATURAL-- TO TALES
OF STRANGE SPECTERS WHO
HAVE HAUNTED COUNTLESS
MIDNIGHTS! BUT HERE'S
SOMETHING NEW... SOMETHING
DIFFERENT! IT'S THE STORY
OF... **THE HOLLAND
HAUNT!**



IT MUST HAVE BEEN THE HAND OF FATE,
THAT LETTER WHICH CAUGHT UP WITH PETER
VAN NOSTRAND IN LONDON...

IT'S FROM MY UNCLE
HENDRIK IN NEW
YORK, BRIAN...
GOOD GRIEF IT'S
POSTMARK
OVER SIX
MONTHS
AGO!

THAT'S WHAT YOU
GET FOR NEVER
STAYING PUT IN
ONE PLACE
PETE!

HMMM...MAYBE I'LL
START SETTLING DOWN
NOW MY UNCLE'S GETTING
OLD AND WANTS ME TO
COME HOME! I'LL WRITE
HIM THAT I'M **ON MY**
WAY!

BACK HOME...PETE COULDN'T EXPLAIN
THE STRANGE PREMONITION OF IMPENDING
DISASTER WHICH HAUNTED HIM.

I CAN'T SHAKE OFF
THE FEELING THAT SOME-
THING TERRIBLE'S
HAPPENED... IT'LL BE A
RELIEF TO SEE UNCLE
AT THE PER!

PETER DIDN'T REALIZE THAT HIS
PREMONITION WAS COMING TRUE...

BUT THERE WAS NO
UNCLE TO MEET
HIM...

THAT'S HIM... I
RECOGNIZE HIM FROM
HIS PICTURE! YOU
HEAD FOR THE HOUSE,
ANNA... I'LL TAKE
CARE OF COUSIN
PETER.

GUESS MY UNCLE'S
TOO OLD TO MEET
SHIPS! I'D BETTER
TAKE A TAXI TO
HIS PLACE!

NO THERE
WAS NOTHING
TO WARN
HIM NOW...
NOTHING
BUT A
STRANGE
LITTLE
MAN WHO
APPEARED
MIRACULOUS-
LY... IN
NICK OF
TIME!

WHAT
TH-!

WHEW! IF YOU HADN'T PULLED ME OUT OF THE WAY, 'D.. **HEY!** WHERE'D THAT LITTLE GUY, GO? HE WAS JUST HERE A SECOND AGO!

WELL NO USE WORRYING ABOUT H.M.,... NOW FOR A CAB... NOT THAT THERE'S MUCH CHANCE OF GETTING ONE WITH THAT CROWD WAITING!

JUST THEN...

WELL I'LL BE...! CABBE IF IT WASN'T CRAZY I'D SAY THAT YOU'RE THE ONE WHO SAVED MY LIFE A FEW MINUTES AGO... BUT FORGET IT! JUST TAKE ME TO 210 BANK STREET!

BUT THE DRIVER SCARCELY SEEMED TO LISTEN. WITH A ROAR, THE CAR WAS OFF, IGNORING SIGNALS, MAGICALLY AVOIDING COLLISIONS...

STOP DRIVER!
ARE YOU NUTS?

BUT STILL THE STRANGE, HURLING RACE CONTINUE ONLY TO PAUSE WHEN...

STOP, I TELL YOU - YOU'RE HEADED IN THE WRONG DIRECTION!

BUT... BUT WHY HAVE YOU BROUGHT ME HERE... TO A GRAVEYARD?

NO ANSWER! NOTHING BUT THE PALLID
BEAM OF THE SPOTLIGHT, ON A TOMBSTONE!

IT'S UNCLE
HENDRIK...
DEAD!
BUT
HOW...

HENDRIK
ANNO STRANIC
1994
MARCH 5
11

THEN...
WITH A LURCH, THE STRANGE TAXI
SWINGS INTO MOTION, HEADING BACK...
AT BLINDING SPEED!

WAIT! WHAT DO
YOU KNOW ABOUT MY
UNCLE? WHY DID
YOU BRING ME
HERE?

DID THE
STRANGE LITTLE CABBIE HEAR
FOR HE GAVE NO ANSWER... AND
AS IF BY SOME SERIE MAGIC, THEY
REACHED THEIR DESTINATION!

UNCLE HENDRIK'S HOUSE!
BUT SECOND AGO, WE WERE
BACK THERE... IN THE
CEMETERY!

AND FROM WITHIN
THE HOUSE...

THERE HE GOES... AND
THE TAXI'S **FADING
AWAY DISAPPEARING!**
IT'S INCREDIBLE!

WHAT ARE WE
GOING TO DO...
HE'S HERE! OH,
IF YOU'D ONLY
GOTTEN RID
OF HIM BACK
AT THE PIER,
ARNOLD!

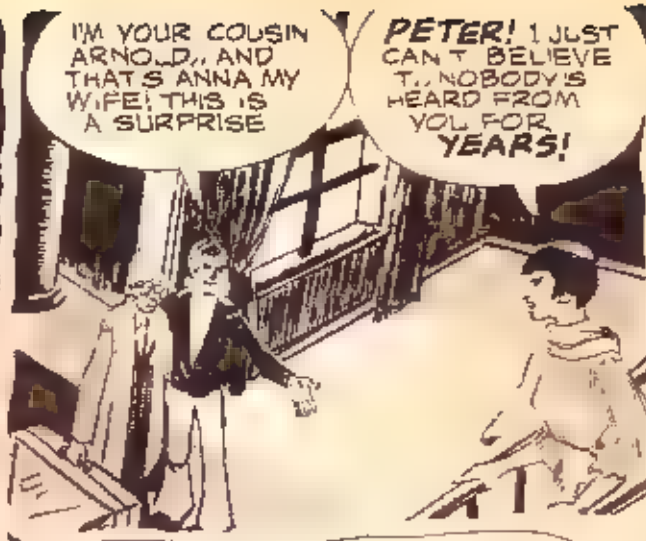
IT WAS
TOUGH LUCK,
BUT I'LL BE
EASIER HERE...
LISTEN! WE'LL
WELCOME HIM AND
TELL HIM EVERYTHING ABOUT
THE WILL... DON'T WORRY...
**HE'LL BE DEAD
BEFORE THE
NIGHT'S OVER!**





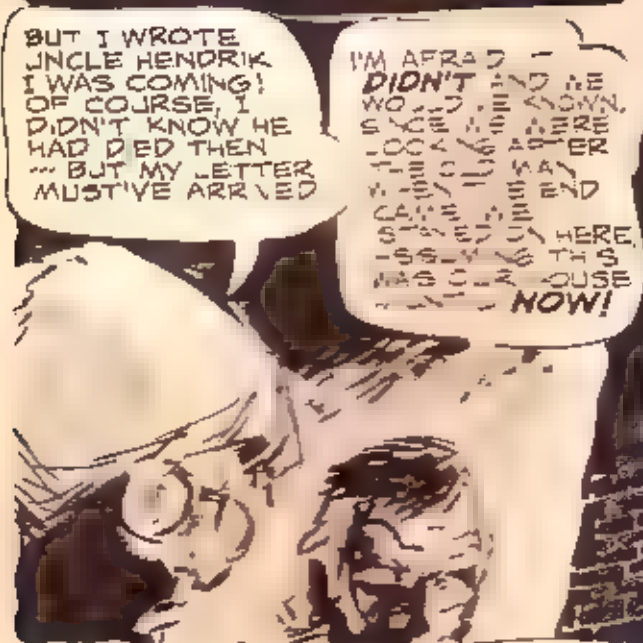
YOU WISHED TO SEE
GREAT SCOTT!
YOU'RE **PETER**..
PETER VAN
NOSTRAND!

THAT'S
RIGHT!
WHO ARE
YOU?



I'M YOUR COUSIN
ARNOLD.. AND
THAT'S ANNA MY
WIFE! THIS IS
A SURPRISE

PETER! I JUST
CAN'T BELIEVE
IT.. NOBODY'S
HEARD FROM
YOU FOR
YEARS!

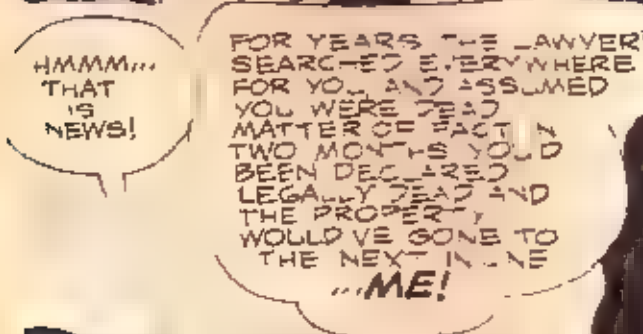


BUT I WROTE
UNCLE HENDRIK
I WAS COMING!
OF COURSE, I
DIDN'T KNOW HE
HAD DIED THEN
... BUT MY LETTER
MUST'VE ARRIVED

I'M AFRAID I
DIDN'T KNOW HE
WOULD BE KNOWN
SINCE I NEVER
LOOKED AFTER
THE HOUSE
... I'D SAY
I'D END
CAME TO
STAY HERE
... BUT THIS
WAS OUR HOUSE
NOW!

I DON'T GET
IT! WHOSE
HOUSE IS IT,
THEN?

OF COURSE, YOU
DON'T KNOW ANY
THING ABOUT THE
WILL! UNCLE HEN-
DRIK LEFT EVERY-
THING TO YOU!



HMMM...
THAT
IS
NEWS!

FOR YEARS THE LAWYERS
SEARCHED EVERYWHERE
FOR YOU AND ASSUMED
YOU WERE DEAD
MATTER OF FACT IN
TWO MONTHS YOU'D
BEEN DECLARED
LEGALLY DEAD AND
THE PROPERTY
WOULD'VE GONE TO
THE NEXT IN LINE
... **ME!**

SO YOU OWN A
HOUSE NOW..
COUSIN! WE'LL
GO SEE THE
LAWYERS IN THE
MORNING AND
ARRANGE FOR
IT!

SORT OF
TOUGH FOR YOU
... ME SHOWING
UP, HUH? MAYBE
I SHOULD'VE
STAYED
MISSING;



NOTHING OF THE SORT, IT'S WONDERFUL TO HAVE YOU TURN UP LIKE THIS!

AND YOU'RE GOING TO ENJOY THIS OLD DUTCH HOUSE!

PETER BEGAN TO TELL HIS STORY... LITTLE KNOWING THE STRANGE SPECTER HIS WORDS WERE SUMMONING...

ARNOLD, THE WINDOW!

CONFOUND IT I COULD'VE SWORN THAT WINDOW WAS CLOSE!

AS THEY PROCEEDED... UNAWARE OF THEIR WEIRD VISITOR...

YOU WERE SAYING, PETE?

OH, YES, WELL OF COURSE NOBODY BELIEVES IN GHOSTS, BUT...

WHA - UNCLE HENDRIK PICTURE. - MUST HAVE COME LOOSE

WHEN A DEAD MAN'S PICTURE FALLS... IT WAS ENOUGH TO DRIVE FROM MIND THE STORY PETE HAD PLANNED TO TELL...

SORRY FOR THIS RECEPTION; UNCLE HENDRIK ALWAYS SAID THIS HOUSE WAS HAUNTED, AND MAYBE IT IS! HA-HA! WELL... MIGHT AS WELL SHOW YOU TO YOUR ROOM!

HAVE A NICE REST, PETER, A NICE, LONG REST!

Y SURE IN - GOOD NIGHT

PETER PREPARES FOR BED! BUT WHAT STRANGE REASON TURNS HIS ATTENTION TOWARDS THE FIREPLACE.

"...A PARTIALLY-BURNED ENVELOPE, AN ENGLISH STAMP AND POSTMARKED LONDON... ON THE VERY DAY I WROTE TO UNCLE HENDRIK! ARNOLD SAID MY LETTER HAD NEVER ARRIVED... BUT THIS MAKES ME WONDER!"

LATER... HE'S ASLEEP! IT WOULD BE EASY NOW...

NOT YET, ANNA... WE'VE BEEN THINKING! HOW DID PETER KNOW UNCLE WAS DEAD... PERHAPS HE KNOWS WHERE THOSE OLD DOCUMENTS ARE!



THAT'S RIDICULOUS... WE WOULDN'T HAVE KNOWN ABOUT THEM OURSELVES IF OLD HENDRIK HADN'T BABBLER IN HIS DELIRIUM! WE'VE GOT TO FINISH PETER NOW, ARNOLD!

ALL RIGHT... BUT LET SWAT A COUPLE OF HOURS AND SEE IF PETER DOES KNOW WHERE THOSE PAPERS ARE, HE MAY ATTEMPT TO GET THEM TONIGHT.

MEANWHILE, WITHIN... HOVERING OVER THE SLEEPING MAN... THE EERIE GHOST SMILED...

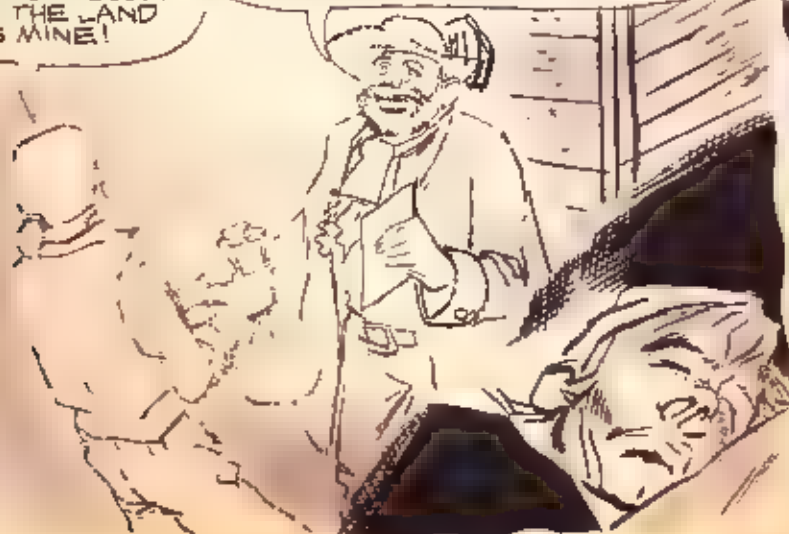


AND IN PETER'S SLEEP-SHROUDED MIND, AN ODD DREAM FORMED...

IT IS A BARGAIN, MYNHEER! HERE IS THE GOLD, AND THE LAND IS MINE!

YOU NOW OWN A SECTION OF NEW AMSTERDAM, PETER!

NOW TO PUT THESE DOCUMENTS IN A SAFE PLACE... AND KNOW THE VERY SPOT - THE SECRET COMPARTMENT!



THE WEIRD DREAM PROCEEDED
...AND PETER SAW THE LITTLE
MAN ENTER A HOUSE, APPROACH
THE WALL NEAR AN ORNATE
BUST! A TOUCH OF HIS FINGER
...AND A CONCEALED DRAWER
SLID OPEN!

GOOD GOSH! GUESS
IT WAS A DREAM... BUT
IT WAS SO VIVID!

BUT I DON'T GET IT!
HOW COME THAT
LITTLE MAN IN MY
DREAM WAS THE
IMAGE OF THE
GUY WHO SAVED
MY LIFE?

THAT BUST IN THE DREAM,
SEEMS TO ME I SAW SOME-
THING LIKE THAT IN THE HALL
DOWNSTAIRS!

I'M POWERLESS...
BEFORE A STRANGE
COMPULSION! I'VE GOT
TO GO DOWNSTAIRS
AND SEE!

THERE HE GOES!
I TOLD YOU HE
KNOWS SOME-
THING!

NO DOUBT ABOUT IT... IT'S THE
SAME ONE AS IN MY DREAM. LET'S
SEE... THE LITTLE DUTCHMAN
PRESSED THE MOULDING ABOUT
HERE...

WOW! THERE IS A HIDDEN
DRAWER... WITH SOMETHING
INSIDE IT!

LET'S SEE.. **WOW!** IT'S AN OLD DEED TO PROPERTY AT THE FOOT OF OLD NEW AMSTERDAM.. PRESENT DAY MANHATTAN! WHY IT MUST BE WORTH **MILLIONS!**

YOU'RE RIGHT PETER-IT IS, AND HOW **LUCKY** THAT YOU SHOULD HAVE FOUND IT!

ARNOLD! BUT WHAT'S WITH THE GUN?

IT'S POINTED RIGHT WHERE I WANT IT! WE'VE BEEN SEARCHING THE WHOLE HOUSE FOR THOSE PAPERS! **HAND THEM OVER!**



WHY SHOULD I... THEY BELONG TO ME? DIDN'T YOU TELL ME UNCLE HENDRIK HAD LEFT EVERYTHING TO ME?

YES, BUT NO-BODY KNOWS YOU'VE RETURNED... YOU'LL BE DECLARED LEGALLY DEAD WITHIN TWO MONTHS... AND I'LL OWN EVERYTHING! THEY'LL NEVER FIND YOUR BODY PETER!

DO YOU THINK I'D LET YOU STAND BETWEEN ME AND A FORTUNE!

I'D BET THAT YOU KILLED UNCLE!

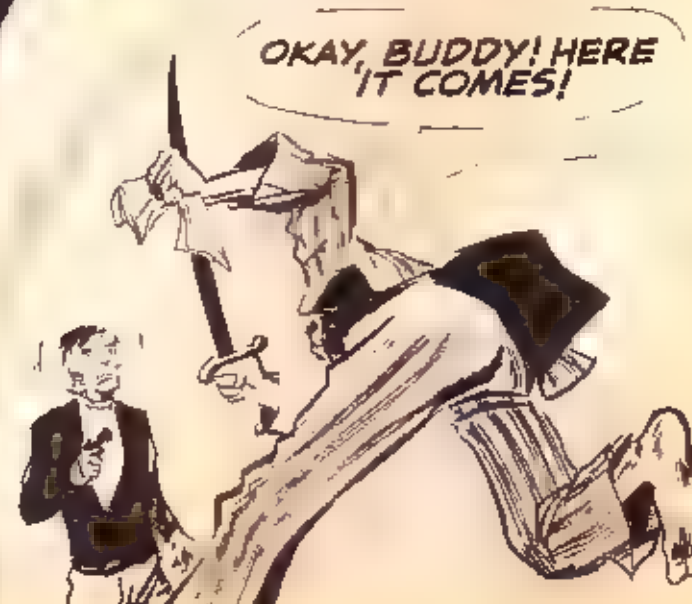
MEANWHILE A SPECTER LISTEN!

CALL IT HELPING ALONG THE PROCESS OF OLD AGE BY AN OVERDOSE OF MEDICINE!



PETER DIDN'T STOP TO SPECULATE ON THE SWORD DROPPED INTO HIS HAND SEEMINGLY FROM NOWHERE. ARMED NOW, HE SWUNG INTO ACTION.

OKAY, BUDDY! HERE IT COMES!



ARGH!

AND AT THE CRUCIAL
MOMENT...

YOU TWO ARE UNDER
ARREST, WE'VE HEARD
YOU CONFESS TO
MURDER!

ALONE LATER...

BUT I, I CAN'T
UNDERSTAND,
HOW'D YOU
HAPPEN TO
GET HERE
"NOW!"

A LITTLE OLD CAB-DRIVER
CAME TO THE STATION
AND TOLD US THERE
WAS **TROUBLE** HERE
WE GOT HERE JUST IN
TIME TO HEAR
PUNK BRAGGING ABOUT
KILLING HIS
UNCLE!

WELL, WHAT DO
YOU KNOW! IT'S
ALL OVER, I
WONDER WHO
THAT LITTLE
MAN WAS!

AGAIN, AN ODD COMPULSION...
PULLING PETER'S EYES TOWARD
THE OLD BUST! AND THERE HE SAW

AND THAT'S WHO HE
WAS... **MY GREAT-GREAT-
GREAT-GRANDFATHER!**

THAT FACE...
THE SAME AS THE
MAN WHO SAVED
ME AT THE DEER
...ALSO THE TAXI
DRIVER, AND THE
OLD DUTCHMAN IN
MY DREAM

THE
END

PETER JANN
NEW AND ENCAP
040

THE THING

SEE
SOMETHING
HERE WHAT
S - PETE?
WHAT ARE
YOU AFRAID
OF?

AAAAIEEE!!
JACK! DO
SOMETHING!
HELP!!
HELP!!

WHAT GHASTLY, MACABRE
MYSTERY WAS THIS? JACK
DARROW COULD SEE THAT
HIS GRAND PETE LARKIN,
WAS GRIPPED BY STARK
TERROR!
BUT WHAT WAS HE
AFRAID? AT THE APPARENT
THE JACK DARROW
KNEW! HE KNEW THERE
WAS NO ESCAPE FROM
THE THING!

MY NAME IS JACK DARROW!
I'M A TRAVELING SALESMAN--
A NORMAL SORT OF FELLOW
YOU'D THINK NOTHING WEIRD
WOULD EVER HAPPEN TO!
BUT BELIEVE ME, IT
DID!

I WAS VERY PLEASED WITH MYSELF THAT LATE
AFTERNOON OF DECEMBER 31ST-- I WAS DRIVING
ALONG AN UNFAMILIAR ROAD WHEN

EVERYTHING'S
CERTAINLY FINE
I - HELLO-- THAT
GUY SURE LOOKS
THE OPPOSITE

I WAS STARTLED WHEN I REALIZED I KNEW HIM! ---

WHY, HELLO!
YOU'RE PETE
LARKIN, AREN'T
YOU?

WHY, YES!
- HELLO!

HE'D BEEN A CLASSMATE OF MINE AT N.Y.U.
TEN YEARS BEFORE!

IMAGINE BUMPING
INTO YOU AFTER SO
MANY YEARS. HOW
ARE YOU, PETE?

I'M FINE, JACK!
NICE TO SEE
YOU AGAIN!

HE LOOKED AWFUL! I REMEMBERED THAT
HE HAD BEEN A DELICATE SORT OF BOY IN
COLLEGE!

NOTHING MUCH
HAS HAPPENED TO
ME SINCE, JACK!
I--WELL, I'VE
BEEN SICK QUITE
A BIT!

YEAH?
TOUGH
LUCK!

HE LOOKED LIKE HE WAS IN THE MIDDLE OF A
NERVOUS BREAKDOWN!

I LIVE NEAR
HERE... ALONE! WHOLE
FAMILY'S OUT WEST!
I'M RESTING NOW--
BOUGHT MYSELF
A LITTLE HOUSE!

TOMORROW'S NEW
YEAR'S! YOU HAVE
ANYTHING TO DO
JACK? I WAS
THINKING... WHY
NOT STAY WITH
ME? WE CAN
COOK UP SOME
FUN!

I WAS
PLANNING
ON STAYING
AT THE HOTEL
IN ANNEDALE,
BUT-- WELL,
OKAY, PETE
--THANKS

WHAT GRIM TRICK OF FATE MADE ME MEET
HIM AND ACCEPT HIS INVITATION?

IT'S JUST A LITTLE
WAY DOWN THIS ROAD...
ISN'T MUCH OF A
PLACE! BETTER
TAKE IT SLOW,
ROAD GETS
BAD HERE

IT WAS A STRANGE OLD
HOUSE YOU'D THINK THAT
NO ONE HAD LIVED IN IT FOR
YEARS!



I BOUGHT
IT CHEAP,
JACK!

HE LED ME UP A CREAKY
BROKEN-DOWN OLD
STAIRWAY!



I-I'VE BEEN SO
SICK I'VE BEEN
NEGLECTING THE
PLACE A LITTLE!

WHAT COULD I SAY? I WAS
MOSTLY SILENT AS I SAT
UNEASILY IN THAT TOWER
ROOM WITH HIM!



MILK AND
SANDWICHES
OKAY, JACK?--
I'M NOT
MUCH OF A
HOUSEKEEPER!

THAT'S
FINE,
PETE!

I'LL STAY
A WHILE...
THEN
BEAT IT!

IF ONLY I HAD HAD THE SENSE
TO GET OUT THEN! BUT I SAT
THERE, FROZEN WITH A
GROWING HORROR! WAS HE
INSANE?...

SURE NICE TO
HAVE YOU, JACK!
GETS SO
LONELY HERE!
MAKE ME
NERVOUS!
HA! HA! YES,
THAT'S MY
TROUBLE--
I'M SO
NERVOUS!

LONELY?
YES, I
CAN
IMAGINE

HE'S
FRIGHTENED,
BUT... WHY?



PETE!
WHAT'S
THE
MATTER?
ARE YOU
AFRAID
OF THIS
BALCONY?

I I GUESS SO!
SOMETHING AWFUL
HAPPENED HERE,
JACK! THEY TOLD
ME ABOUT IT WHEN
I BOUGHT THE
HOUSE! THAT'S
WHY THEY SOLD
IT SO CHEAP!



THEY SAID
A MURDER WAS
COMMITTED
HERE ONE
NIGHT I
SPOOKED--
I'M HERE,
I GET TOO
FRIGHTENED

A MURDER?
TELL ME
ABOUT IT!



"IT SEEMS THERE WAS A YOUNG FELLOW DOWN ON HIS LUCK ONE NIGHT IN A BAR AND GRILL HE STRUCK UP AN ACQUAINTANCE WITH A MIDDLE-AGED ENGLISHMAN..."



WOW! WHAT A WAD! THIS OLD DUCKS A TOTAL STRANGER AROUND HERE! IF ANYTHING HAPPENED TO HIM--

THERE YOU ARE MY GOOD MAN!

THANK YOU, SIR!



"THE KILLER HAD SEEN THIS DESERTED HOUSE! ON SOME PRETEXT HE LURED THE ENGLISHMAN HERE..."



"SOMEHOW HE GOT HIM OUT ON THE MOONLIT BALCONY!"



I SAY! THIS IS AN ODD OLD PLACE!

MIGHTY INTERESTING I'LL SHOW YOU!



I SAY! NOW LOOK HERE, YOUNG MAN, I--?

WHAT IN--



THEN IN THE STRUGGLE...



"THE FALL KILLED HIM! THEN--"

NEARLY EIGHT HUNDRED BUCKS! I'LL BURY HIM IN THE CELLAR! NOBODY'LL EVER KNOW!



BUT A-EN THE KILLER GOT BACK SLOATING OVER HIS BODY--

I-- I JUST BURIED YOU! YOU'RE SET AWAY FROM ME-- YOU-- YOU--
"CRABE" THING
AAAAH!!

HA! HA!
NOW IT'S YOUR TURN!

NO!
HELP!
HELP!

YOU MUST BE PUNISHED!
HA! HA!

"HE FELL ON THE ROCKS, AND FOR A MOMENT THE MURDERER LIVED, DYING IN AGONY--"

YOUR PUNISHMENT-- NOT JUST TO DIE NOW! BUT AT THE END OF EACH YEAR YOU SHALL LIVE AGAIN FOR A DAY! -- AND AT MIDNIGHT-- DIE HERE AGAIN! YOUR PUNISHMENT-- NEVER TO END!

AT THE END OF EACH YEAR! DECEMBER 31ST-- AT MIDNIGHT! AND THAT WAS NOW!!

BUT IT WON'T HAPPEN THIS TIME, WILL IT, JACK? I'D DO SOMETHING! IT CAN'T HAPPEN AGAIN THIS YEAR

HA! HA!
YOUR "VE HAS COME PETE.

WHA--?

TO LIVE AGAIN -- AND DIE AGAIN -- AND AGAIN, ON THROUGH THE YEARS HIS GHASTLY HORRIBLE PENITENCE

HA! HA!
HA!

NO! NO!
AAGGGH!

FOR A MOMENT I GAZED DOWN AT THE ROCKS! NOTHING WAS THERE! NOTHING WAS IN THE DESERTED OLD HOUSE -- UNTIL THE END OF THE NEW YEAR WHICH NOW WAS BEGINNING!

THEN, SHUDDERING, I FLED!!



OVER THE HOWL OF THE WIND CAME A SHRILL AND HORRIBLE CRY OF DEATH. TWO MEN AND A WOMAN, CHALLENGED THE HIGHEST PEAK IN THE WORLD, WHICH HAD NEVER BEEN CONQUERED!



MOUNT EVEREST
DROWNED AND CON-
QUERED BY MAN IS
NOW A GRAVEYARD
FOR MOUNTAINEERS
AND OTHER THINGS!

MY NAME IS SANDRA SCOTT AND
THIS IS HOW I LOOKED BEFORE
THE STORY BEGAN SEVERAL MONTHS
AGO! I WAS ONE IN A PARTY OF
MOUNTAIN CLIMBERS, GETTING
READY TO TACKLE THE KING OF
ALL MOUNTAINS- EVEREST

W - OUR NATIVE GUIDE, OOG WE STARTED UP THE
-AS- DANGEROUS STRETCH OF EVEREST.

HERE GOES, GANG! THREE-
-THOUSAND YARDS AND WE'LL
BE THE FIRST HUMANS EVER
TO CLIMB EVEREST!

ONLY THREE-
THOUSAND YARDS
DAN BUT IT'S
ALMOST
STRAIGHT
UP.

BE CAREFUL
NOW, MUCH
DANGER!

DON'T THINK
ABOUT IT SANDRA!
WE'VE GOT TO
MAKE IT!

EASY NOW-
WATCH YOUR
FOOTING!

NOTHING TO
THIS LITTLE
CHASM -

I'VE GOT TO
KEEP UP WITH
THE MEN! GOT
TO PROVE M
AS GOOD AS
THEY ARE!

THEN, AS WE STOPPED TO REST, I SAW OOG STUDY-
ING THE SKY INTENTLY...

NO GOOD,
B G STORM
COME FAST!



M NUTES LATER,

OH, THAT
WIND IS
TERRIBLE!

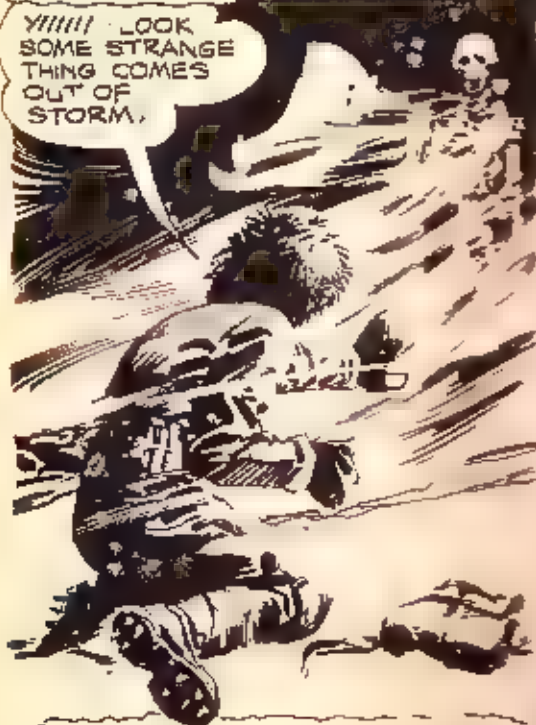


HOLD ON EVERYONE!
CAN'T LET THE TENT
BLOW AWAY!



SUDDENLY OUR GLIDE CRYED OUT
IN HORROR..

YIIIIII! LOOK
SOME STRANGE
THING COMES
OUT OF
STORM.



THE MOUNTAIN IS ANGRY! IT !!
KILL YOU...TURN BACK!



GREAT
SQUIGGY
SA
LAW

LIKE NO
MAN I
EVER SAW
BEFORE.

BEWARE! I
WARN YOU! GO
BACK WHILE
THERE IS
TIME!



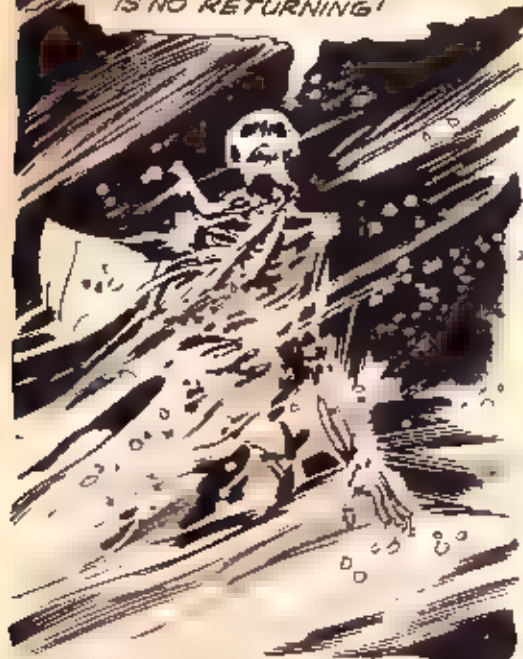
THE SCARY FIGURE STARTED TO VANISH INTO
THE STORM..

HE SAID THE
MOUNTAIN
WOULD KILL
US.

COME BACK
MAN! WHO
ARE YOU?



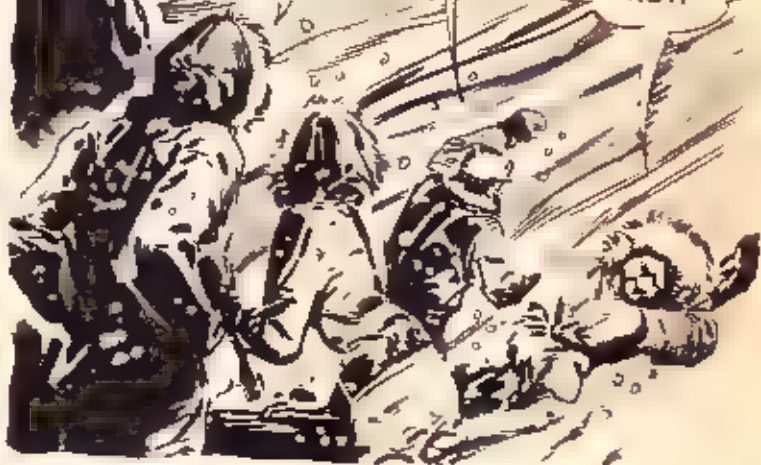
HAAAAA! MY NAME ONCE WAS
KAHN THE GREAT NOW I GO TO
A PLACE FROM WHICH THERE
IS NO RETURNING!



KAHN THE GREAT?...HE WAS BURIED ON THIS
MOUNTAINS CENTURIES AGO

A MUMMY?
INCREDIBLE!

S MUMMY!
OOG NO LIKE!
TURN BACK!
NOW!



LATER, AS THE STORM BLEW ITSELF OUT, WE
STARTED UP THE LAST THOUSAND YARD..

DAN THE LEADER OF OUR
PARTY --REATHENED OOG
WITH A GUN

WE'RE GOING ON UNDER-
STAND? I'M NOT GOING TO
BE CHEATED BY A THING
IN RAGS

WATCH IT
NOW FROM
HERE ON EVERY
FOOT'S
TREACHEROUS

MAYBE OOG'S
RIGHT PERHAPS
WE SHOULD
TURN BACK!



CAREFUL,
SANDRA,
DON'T BUMP
YOUR HEAD
AGAINST THE
CLIFFS FACE

M ALL
RIGHT!
PULL ME
UP!





THERE SHE IS AT LAST.

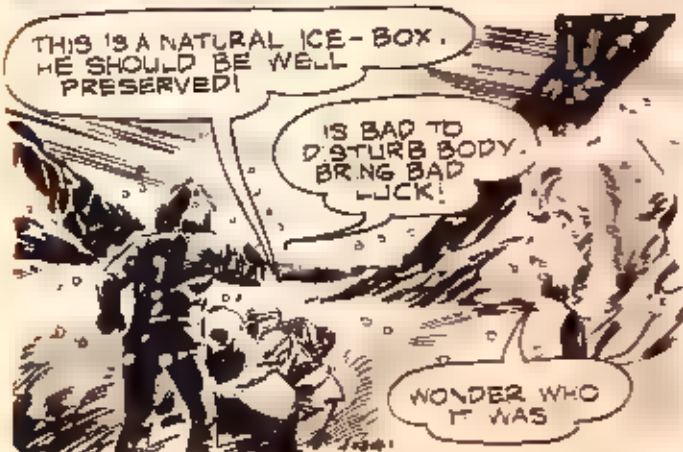
YAAAA - SEE THERE N ICE! IS HAND OF MAN!

LET'S DIG IT UP!

OOG STILL THINKS BETTER GO BACK!

TO OUR HORROR WE RECOGNIZED THE THING THAT STARED UP AT US..

THAT'S THE SAME MUMMY THAT WARNED US BACK THERE! KAHN, THE GREAT! THIS IS WHERE HE DIED.



THIS IS A NATURAL ICE-BOX. HE SHOULD BE WELL PRESERVED!

IS BAD TO DISTURB BODY. BRING BAD LUCK!

WONDER WHO IT WAS



YAAAA- HIS GHOST TELL US GO BACK!

AS WE STARED AT THE CORPSE WE SUDDENLY HEARD A PEAL OF MANACAL LAUGH-TER AND WHAT WE SAW BROUGHT COLD SWEAT OUT ON OUR BODIES...



HA-HA-HA-HA-
HO-HO-HO-HO-
HA-HA-HA-HA-

YIIII- S
DEATH-SPRIT
OF MOUNTAIN

WHAT A HORROR.

I AM THE GRAVE KEEPER GO BACK, FOOLS, WHILE THERE IS STILL TIME! COME ONE STEP CLOSER AND YOU DIE. NONE WILL EVER CONQUER THE MOUNTAIN!



AS WE STOOD, SHAKING IN TERROR AND UNDECIDED, DAN STARTED FORWARD! ONLY HE WAS UNAFRAID...

I'M GOING ON! NO GHOST, OR SPIRIT OR WHATEVER IT IS, IS GOING TO KEEP ME FROM LICKING EVEREST!

DAN-BE CAREFUL!



H HE'S ALMOST TO THE TOP AND NOTHING HAS HAPPENED YET! MAYBE HE WILL MAKE IT AFTER ALL!

BUT JUST AS DAN WAS A FEW FEET FROM THE TOP...

A CREVICE OPENING—
YAAAAA—



HA-HA-HO-
HEE— NOW
YOU ALL DIE!

AN AVALANCHE.
RUN!

HELP-
GAAA—

WE'LL NEVER MAKE IT, OOG
HEAR THAT HORRIBLE
LAUGHTER! THAT THING
IS TAUNTING US!

MOUNTAIN
DEATH'S
MUCH
ANGRY!

OOG THE ROCKS CAVING IN ON US
RUN! MAYBE WE CAN FIND ANOTHER
LEDGE DOWN LOWER ON THE
SLOPE!

I'M
CAUGHT
MISSEY!
HELP!

OOG TRAPPED BY ROCKS!
HELP—NO LEAVE FOR DIE,
YIIIIII—

TERRIFIED AS I WAS I COULD NOT LEAVE
THE HELPLESS MAN TO DIE ALONE, AS I
WORKED DESPERATELY, THAT HORRIBLE
LAUGHTER RANG IN MY EARS...

HA-HA-HA-HA-
DIE!

NO USE!
YOU'RE
CAUGHT
FAST!

'HO-HO-HO-HO—YOU WAITED TOO
LONG! THE MAN DIES FIRST THEN
YOU! YOU WILL NEVER DEFEAT THE
MOUNTAIN AGE!'—

THAT CREATURE—
ON SKIS COMING
AFTER ME.

OOG DIED BENEATH A SHOWER
OF ROCKS...

NO-YAAAAA—

I WAS OUT OF MY MIND WITH FEAR
I RAN DOWN THE CLIFF
MOUNTAINSIDE..

HO-HO-HO - NO USE
TRYING TO ESCAPE ME!
HEEEE-HAAAA-

AAAAAAA-

SUDDENLY I COULD RUN NO FARTHER

HA-HA-HA-HA-HAA-

T-TRAPPED!
IT'LL GET ME
NOW, UNLESS I
CAN ROPE MYSELF
DOWN,

HO-HO-HO -
HEEE-EEE -
GOT YOU
NOW!

ONE LAST CHANCE!
IF I CAN LET MYSELF
DOWN TO THE CREVICE
BEFORE T GET THOSE
TERRIBLE HANDS
ON ME!

PRAY TO HEAVEN THE
ROPE HOLDS SAFE
T DOESN'T SEEM
TO BE COMING
AFTER ME

BUT THE HORROR HAD
PLANS OF ITS OWN..

HE-HEE-HEE
HEE - YOU THINK
TO ESCAPE WITH
A FOOLISH TRICK
LIKE THAT!

I'LL JUST
HALL UP
THE ROPE!

THE TERRIBLE CREATURE BEGAN
TO PULL ME UP SO THERE WAS
ONLY ONE THING TO DO..

FALLING
BETTER TO
DE ON THE
ROCKS

8 BUT LUCK WAS WITH ME - I FELL INTO A SOFT BANK OF SNOW.

SAFE FOR A TIME YET! BUT I WONDER WHY IT HASN'T COME AFTER ME?

GO AND LIVE, FOR YOU FOUGHT HELL FOR YOUR LIFE! THIS ONE TIME I WILL PERMIT YOU TO ESCAPE!

T-THERE IT IS, LEERING DOWN AT ME - SPEAKING TO ME!

YOU WILL SERVE AS A WARNING TO OTHERS! TELL THEM - STAY AWAY FROM THE MOUNTAIN! HA-HA-HA-HEE-HEE-HOO HOO-I GO NOW!

HOURS LATER, DAZED AND STILL SHAKING WITH TERROR, I REACHED OUR CAMP ON THE EDGE OF THAT AWFUL MOUNTAIN...

WHERE OTHERS, MISSY? WE HEAR STRANGE THUNDER!

T-THUNDER? OH NO NOT THUNDER, THAT WAS - (SOB) - LAUGHTER YOU HEARD! THE OTHERS ALL DEAD!

THE TIBETANS TOOK ME OUT TO CIVILIZATION! I SPENT WEEKS IN A HOSPITAL AND FOR SOME REASON THEY WOULD NOT LET ME HAVE A MIRROR...

WELL IF YOU INSIST, BUT IT'S AGAINST ORDERS

PLEASE I MUST HAVE A MIRROR

AND THIS IS THE WAY I LOOK NOW, MY FACE OLD AND MY HAIR COMPLETELY WHITE. THAT IS MY STORY EVERY WORD TRUE, AND YOU MAY BELIEVE IT OR NOT AS YOU WISH....

ONCE THERE WERE FOUR SISTERS WHO INHERITED AN EERIE OLD HOUSE DEEP IN THE SWAMP COUNTRY AND BEFORE THE FIRST NIGHT WAS OVER SOME FOUND LOVE SOME FOUND DEATH AND ONE FOUND THE EVIL SECRETS OF THE OCCULT AND BECAME A...

DEAD WITCH



YES ONCE THERE WERE FOUR SISTERS AS DIFFERENT AS ANY SISTERS COULD BE THE YOUNGEST WAS MARY SWEET PRETTY AND SENSIBLE



NEXT CAME PEARL WITH THE FACE OF AN ANGEL AND THE HEART OF A SOLDIER CHILD



THE THIRD WAS RUBY SURE OF HERSELF AND SURE THAT HER LONELY BODY WOULD BRING HER WHATEVER SHE DESIRED



AND LAST BUT FAR FROM LEAST THERE WAS ELARA SILENT AND SHY WITH STRANGE DARK AND MYSTERIOUS EYES



WHEN THE SISTERS ARRIVED TO TAKE OVER THE OLD HOUSE, THEY FOUND HANDSOME YOUNG LAWYER JOHN BELL THERE TO HELP THEM, AND AS MARY LOOKED AT JOHN, SHE THOUGHT,

WHAT A KIND, CONSIDERATE PERSON I HOPE I HAVE A CHANCE TO GET BETTER ACQUAINTED WITH HIM.

AND SO I THOUGHT I'D STAY THE FIRST NIGHT HERE WITH YOU YOUNG LADIES AND HELP YOU GET SETTLED!

RUBY AND PEARL HAD THOUGHTS, TOO.

HOW HANDSOME WE'RE BOTH SO BEAUTIFUL. WHAT A STARTLING COUPLE WE'D MAKE.

WHAT SHOULDERS FOR A MAN! HIS FIGURE IS NEARLY AS FINE AS FOR A WOMAN! WHAT A WONDERFUL COUPLE WE'D MAKE.

BUT ELVIRA'S THOUGHTS WERE THE MOST STARTLING.

THIS IS THE MAN FOR ME. I'VE NEVER HAD A MAN INTERESTED IN ME... MY SISTERS ALWAYS STOLE THEM FROM ME. BUT THIS ONE IS MINE... IF I HAVE TO KILL FOR HIM!

BUT AS THE EVENING WORE ON

LOOK AT THEM FAWNING OVER HIM AND I'M TOO SHY TO SAY HOW MUCH I LOVE HIM! I CAN'T WATCH THIS ANOTHER SECOND!



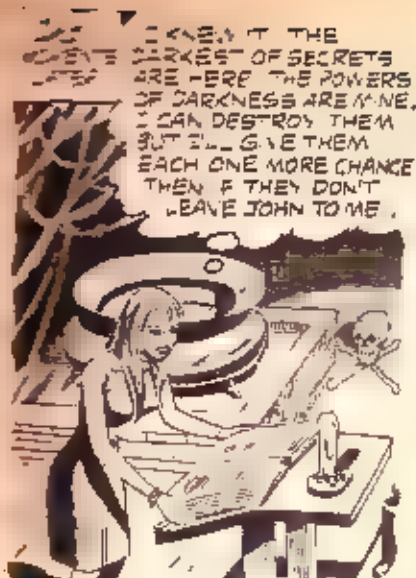
SO ELVIRA TURNED AND RACED DOWN A DARK PASSAGE, AND LATER,

I CAN'T LET THEM TAKE HIM! I'D DO ANYTHING TO STOP THEM, BUT WHAT CAN I DO?

OOH-H!

A HIDDEN ROOM! IT MUST HAVE BEEN THE DEN OF SOME LONG-DEAD WITCH. AND YET I FEEL STRANGELY AT HOME HERE. AND THE GREAT BOOK ON THE TABLE IT MUST CONTAIN





I KNEW IT THE
DARKEST OF SECRETS
ARE HERE THE POWERS
OF DARKNESS ARE MINE.
I CAN DESTROY THEM
BUT I'LL GIVE THEM
EACH ONE MORE CHANCE
THEN IF THEY DON'T
LEAVE JOHN TO ME.

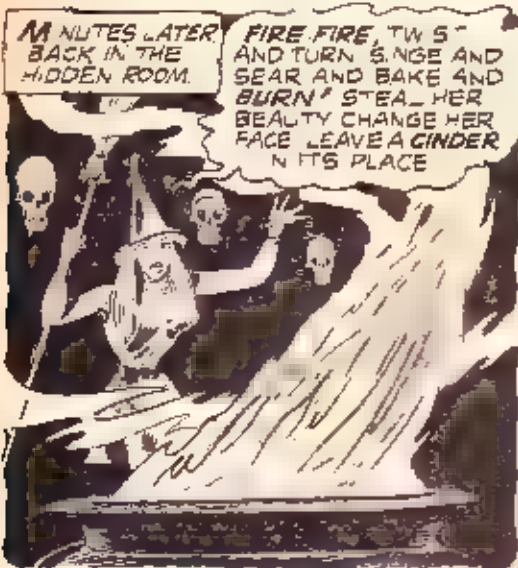


SO ELVIRA CHOSE TO
APPROACH PEARL FIRST.

STAY AWAY FROM JOHN
BECAUSE YOU WANT HIM?
HA! HA! HE WOULDN'T
LOOK AT YOUR UGLY
FACE AFTER SEEING
MINE. I'M GOING TO
MARRY HIM NOW.
GET OUT OF MY WAY!
I'M GOING TO DRESS
FOR DINNER!

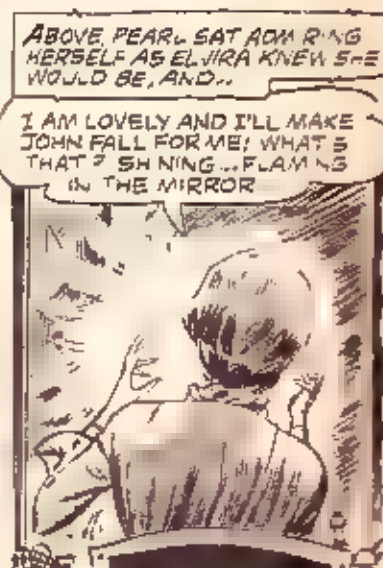
I AM
WARNING
YOU
PEARL.

ALRIGHT THEN. I MUST
DESTROY HER. AND I'LL
DO IT IN A WAY TO MATCH
HER OWN WORST FAULT.
HER VANITY ABOUT HER
FACE.



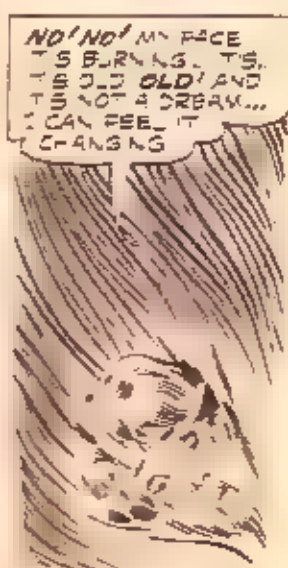
MOMENTS LATER
BACK IN THE
HIDDEN ROOM.

FIRE FIRE TWICE
AND TURN SINGE AND
SEAR AND BAKE AND
BURN! STEAL HER
BEAUTY CHANGE HER
FACE LEAVE A CINDER
IN ITS PLACE.



ABOVE PEARL SAT ADMIRING
HERSELF AS ELVIRA KNEW SHE
WOULD BE, AND...

I AM LOVELY AND I'LL MAKE
JOHN FALL FOR ME! WHAT'S
THAT? SHINING... FLAMING
IN THE MIRROR.



NO! NO! MY FACE
IS BURNING. IT'S
SO OLD! AND
IT'S NOT A DREAM...
I CAN FEEL IT
CHANGING.



I WON'T LIVE LIKE
THIS. I'D RATHER
DIE... AND I WILL.



EEEEEE!

HEARING THE BLOOD-CURLING SCREAM, JOHN AND THE OTHERS RUSHED IN. BUT...

STAY OUT OF HERE YOU CAN'T HELP HER NOW. SHE'S DEAD!

AND HOW HORRIBLY DEAD! YET I SEE HER FACE... SOMETHING IS TERRIBLY WRONG IN THIS HOUSE



THIS IS A CASE FOR THE POLICE BUT THERE'S NO PHONE AND I WON'T LEAVE THE REST OF YOU ALONE WE'LL JUST HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL MORNING

OH JOHN! YOU SAY SHE KILLED HERSELF. POOR DEAR LITTLE PEARL!



A HALF HOUR LATER ELYRA CHOOSES HER SECOND VICTIM.

RUBY, DON'T YOU SEE? PEARL DIED BECAUSE OF JOHN. THE POWERS OF DARKNESS HAVE CHOSEN HIM AND HIS DEATH IS ANY WOMAN WHO...

NONSENSE! NEITHER PEARL'S DEATH NOR YOUR GHOST STORIES WILL SCARE ME AWAY FROM JOHN! DON'T THINK I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU STARING AT HIM



BUT HE'S BEEN DOING A LITTLE STARING OF HIS OWN. AT ME. I'M GOING TO CHANGE INTO THIS DRESS. WATCH HIS EYES POP

HE'LL NEVER SEE YOU AGAIN... ALIVE. AND AS FOR THAT BODY YOU'RE SO PROUD OF...



POWERS OF EVIL... DO MY WILL... SEND THY CREATURES TO THE KILL! YOU WHO FLY AND CREEP AND CRAWL... COME YE ONE AND COME YE ALL!

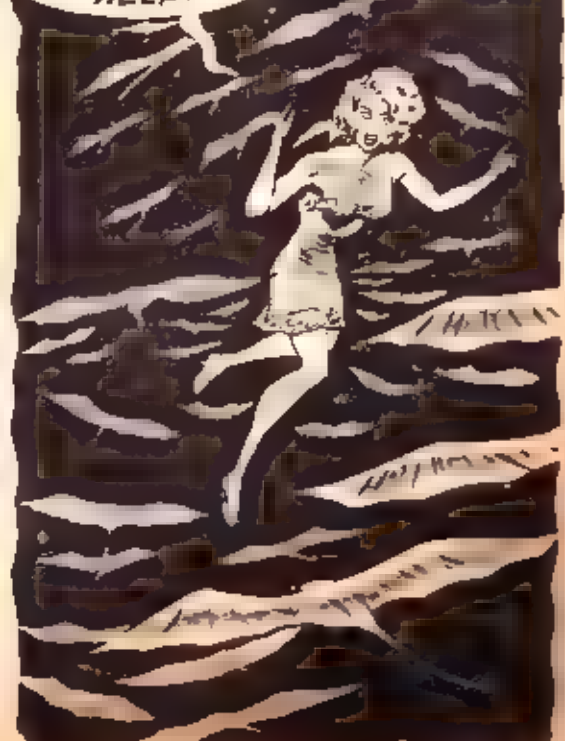


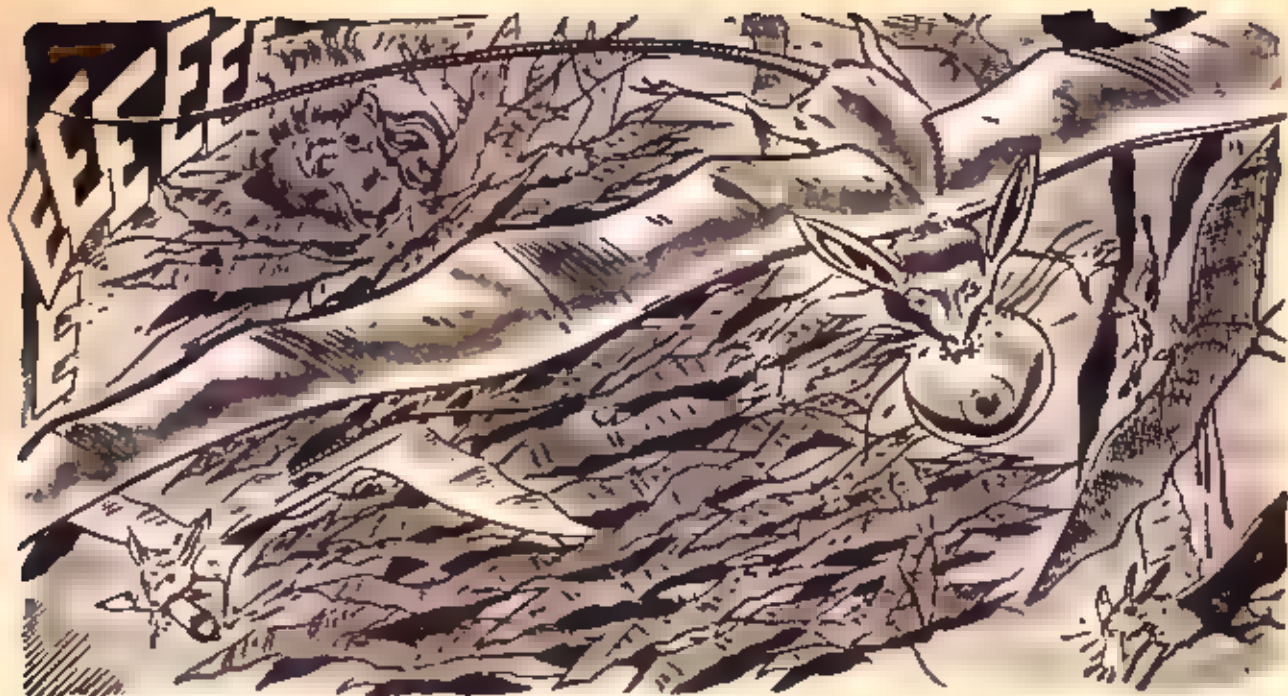
WAIT TILL JOHN SEES YE IN GOOD HEAVENS!

BLZZ



GET AWAY FROM ME HELP. PLEASE... HELP!





And
FIFTEEN
MINUTES
LATER.

IS TOO AWAY...
JOHN, DO YOU
SEE HER? SHE HAS
EATEN ALIVE.

EASY MARY, LISTEN THERE'S SOMETHING
HAPPENING HERE I CAN'T COPE WITH I'M
GOING OUT TO THE HIGHWAY AND SEE IF I
CAN FLAG SOMEONE TO SEND FOR HELP.
I'LL ONLY BE A FEW MINUTES.

A FEW MINUTES
WILL BE ENOUGH!

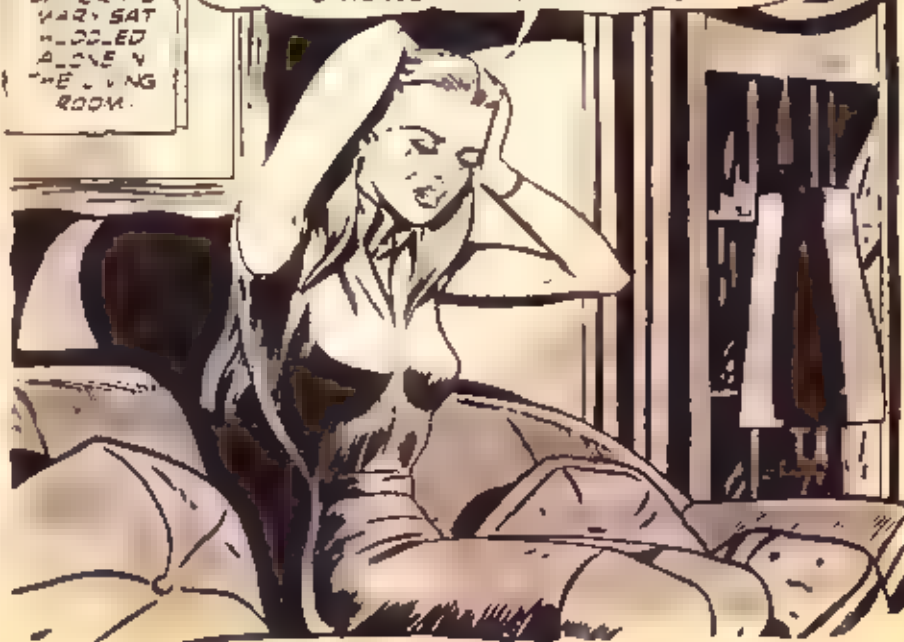


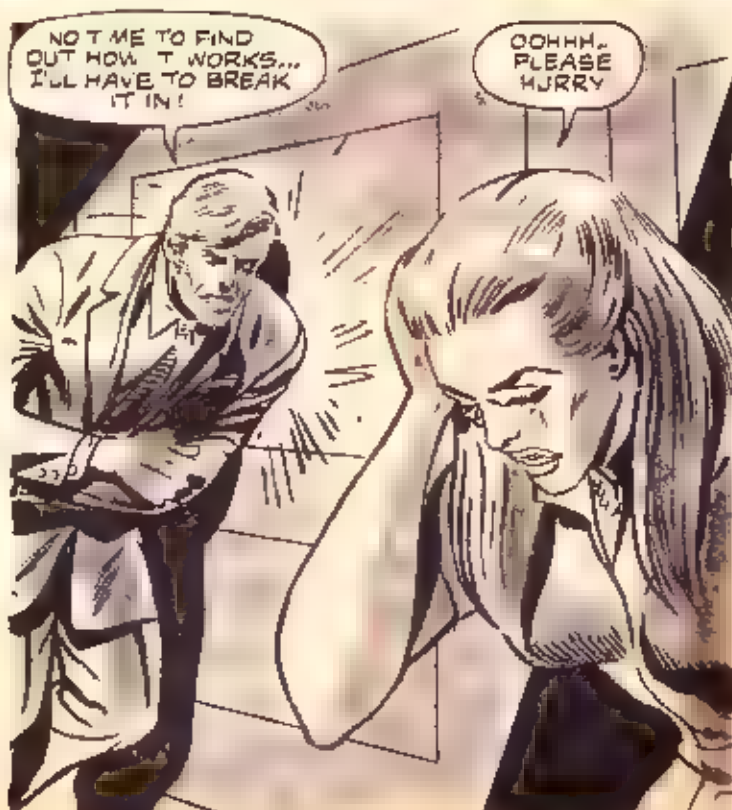
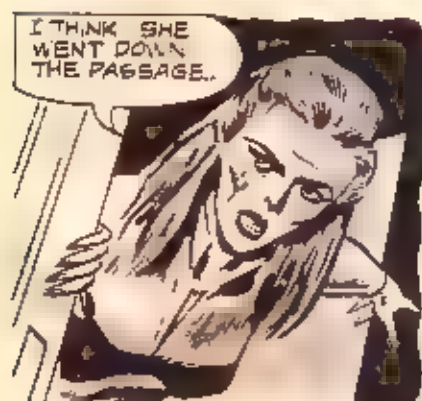
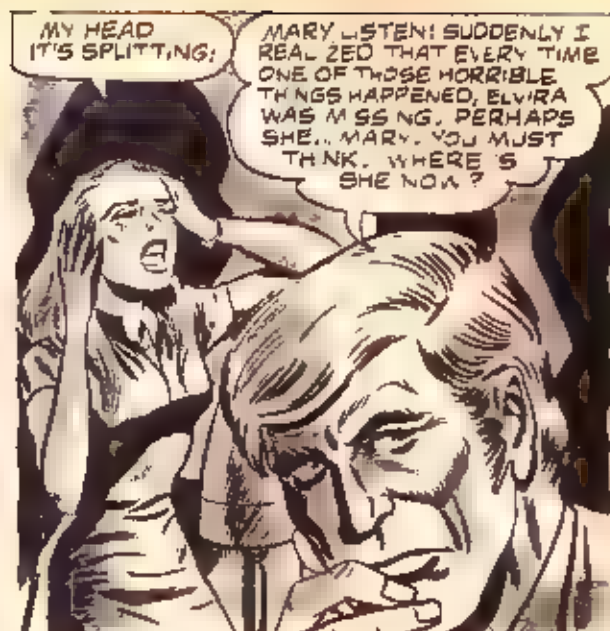
HURRY
JOHN

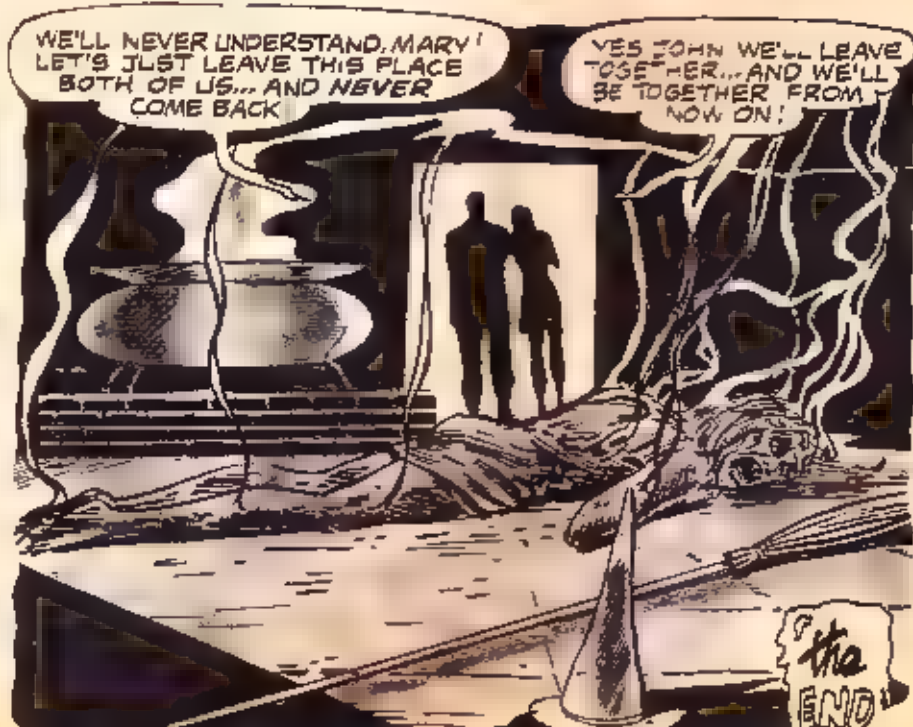
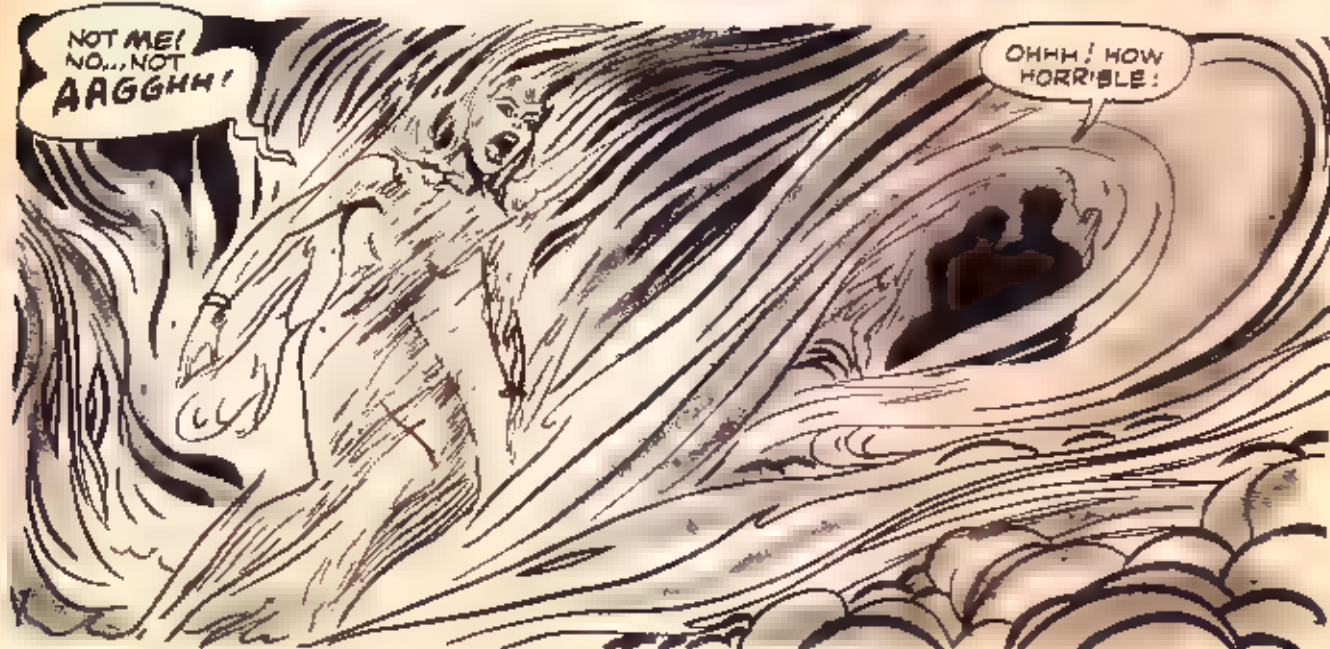
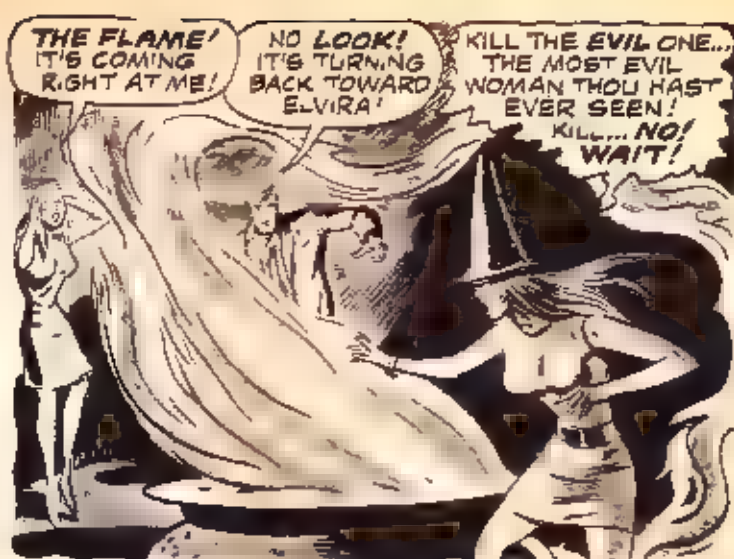
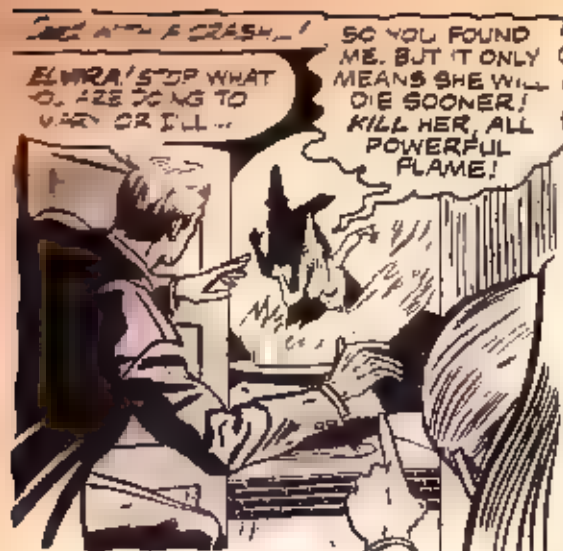
NO USE TALKING
TO HER. SHE
LOVES HIM AND
HE LOVES HER.
BUT SHE WON'T
HAVE A MOTHER.
THE BRAVY ONE, THE
SENSIBLE ONE IS
SHE? WELL, WE'LL
SEE JUST HOW
BRAVY SHE
CAN BE.

And A FEW
MINUTES
LATER AS
MARY SAT
Huddled
ALONE IN
THE LIVING
ROOM.

STRANGE, I SEEM TO BE DEVELOPING A
TERRIBLE HEADACHE AND I NEVER FEEL THEM
AS WORSE ON HOW T POUNDS.







UNSPEAKABLY LOATHSOME CREATURES DANCE BENEATH A STARLESS SKY. MEN CROUCH IN TERROR BEFORE THE SIGHTS AND SOUNDS OF DOOM... TO KNOW ALL EVIL AND CHAOS IS TO KNOW...

THE BLACKNESS of EVIL



THIS NIGHT
IS OURS
FOREVER!
IT SHALL A DAYS
BE WALPURG'S
EVE

RUN YOU
FOOLS!
RUN--
HA! HA! HA!

YAAHH-H!!
HELP! HELP!

THIS IS THE SHOP OF FREDERICK KAFFNER--
A MASTER CLOCKMAKER... AND A MAN WHO
WOULD MASTER HIS MAKER!

KEEP WORKING,
CARL. I DON'T
PAY YOU TO

HOW I HATE YOU,
FREDERICK KAFFNER!
IF ONLY I HAD THE
COURAGE TO
KILL...

I WISH I COULD JOIN THE FORCES OF
EVIL ON WALPURG'S NIGHT - WHEN ALL
THE CREATURES OF DARKNESS ARE
FREE TO ROAM. THEN I MIGHT
FIND THE COURAGE!

SUDDENLY THE BLACK VOID IS SPLIT BY A CACKLING VOICE--

WALPURG'S NIGHT DRAWS NEAR, MY FRIEND! PERHAPS YOUR WISH SHALL BE GRANTED! PERHAPS ON THAT FATEFUL EVENING YOU SHALL MEET... **YOUR DESTINY!**

NO ONE! BUT I **DID** HEAR A VOICE! THERE **WAS** SOMEONE HERE!

CARL, YOU FOOL! WHERE ARE YOU?

AS THE DAYS PASS, THE VOICE OF THE DECREPIT HAG GROWS LOUDER AND LOUDER... AND FINALLY ON WALPURG'S NIGHT THE LUST TO KILL HAS CAPTURED CARL'S TORTURED MIND.

THE TIME HAS COME, MY HOPE IS NEAR! HEAR ME, SPIRITS OF WALPURG'S! **HEAR ME!**

A ROAR, A CLAP OF THUNDER, A SUDDEN STREAK OF LIGHTNING... AND CARL'S WISHES ARE MET!

WE COME, FRIEND OF DARKNESS!

...TO YOUR HANDS IN **MURDER!**

LIKE PESTILENT SPIRITS FROM A ROTTING CORPSE, THE DEMONS OF WALPURG'S DANCE MADLY ABOUT CARL, URGING HIM ONTO HIS DEED OF DEATH!

KILL! KILL! BEFORE THIS NIGHT IS DONE YOU MUST KILL HIM!

YES, YES, I SHALL OBEY YOU! HE'S REACHED HIS TIME TO...

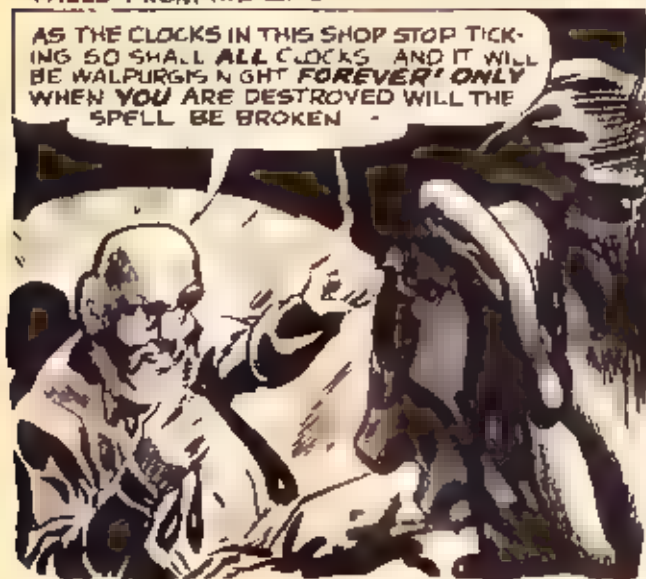
KEEP BACK! NO, NO, NO!

DIE!

AARGH!

THE CLOCKMAKER SINKS TO THE FLOOR-- HIS LIFE-
BLOOD RAPIDLY EBBING-- AND A FEARFUL OATH
FALLS FROM HIS LIPS---

AS THE CLOCKS IN THIS SHOP STOP TICK-
ING SO SHALL ALL CLOCKS-- AND IT WILL
BE WALPURGIS NIGHT FOREVER! ONLY
WHEN YOU ARE DESTROYED WILL THE
SPELL BE BROKEN--



TO REIGN FOREVER IS OUR
WISH, YOU FOOL! MAY YOUR
WORDS COME TRUE! COME
MY FRIENDS-- TONIGHT
WE ARE KINGS OF
THE EARTH!

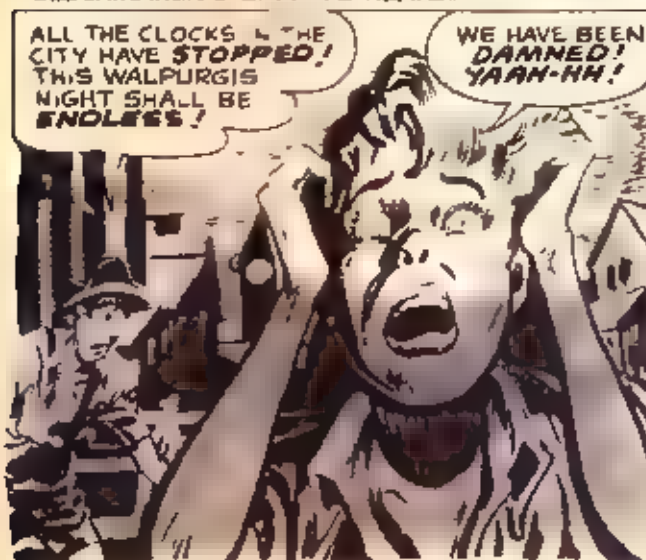
YES-- LET
US
HURRY!



JUBILANT AT THE LONG HOURS OF DEPRAVITY
BEFORE THEM, THE CREATURES RUSH FROM THE
CLOCKMAKER'S SHOP TO HEAR...

ALL THE CLOCKS IN THE
CITY HAVE STOPPED!
THIS WALPURGIS
NIGHT SHALL BE
ENDLESS!

WE HAVE BEEN
DAMNED!
YAHN-HH!



HA! HA! KAFFNER'S
CURSE IS REALLY A
BLESSING! WE CAN
DANCE THROUGH THE
STREETS FOR ALL
ETERNITY!

WE HAVE WON
THE EARTH AT
LAST!



RUN, MORTAL! RUN
AND BOLT YOUR DOOR--
THERE IS NO PLACE FOR
MERE MORTALS IN
THE CITY TONIGHT!

YAAAA-E!
DON'T COME
NEAR ME!



WHILE ALL TIME REMAINS SUSPENDED IN THE RAIN-
DRENCHED AIR THE BLACK DEMONS-- LED BY THE R
NEW INITIATE IN EVIL-- ENGAGE IN A WILD AND
MONSTROUS ORGY OF DARKNESS!

THE LIGHT OF DAY SHALL NEVER
RETURN! WE TRIUMPH IN THE
BLACKNESS OF EVIL!



IT RAINING HEAVILY!
PERHAPS WE
SHOULD SEEK
SHELTER!

THE RAIN
CANNOT HARM
US
DANCE
ON!

BUT AS THE RAIN CONTINUES IT BECOMES A DELUGE, AND...

WE SHALL DROWN
HERE IF WE
SUSPENDED THEN
IT WILL RAIN
FOREVER!

WE MUST
FIND
SHELTER!

LET US INTO YOUR
HOUSES! YOU
CAN'T BOLT YOUR
DOORS AGAINST
US!

THEY FEAR US
THEY WILL
NOT LET
US IN!

THE WATER
THE WATER

FIERCELY REFLECTING THE RAIN CONTINUES
TO FALL ON THE TERRIFIED CREATURES...
AND THE SEAS STILL AND WAITS

YA-AIEEEE-E!

QUICKLY-- OUR ONLY
CHANCE IS TO FLEE TO THE
HILLS OUTSIDE THE CITY!
OTHERWISE WE WILL
DROWN!

WHAT MUST WE DO TO
END THIS ETERNAL
RAIN THIS VENGEANCE
OF THE HEAVENS??

WE HAVE BEEN
TRAPPED BY THE CURSE
OF YOUR DEAD MASTER
HIS SPELL MUST BE
BROKEN!

HE SAID THAT HIS
CURSE SHOULD BE
ENDED ONLY WHEN
YOU ARE DESTROYED

YES??

I -- I DON'T REMEMBER!
HE -- HE DIDN'T --!

GRIMLY, THE FIENDS OF THE NIGHT
TURN ON CARL... AND SEE THE
END OF THEIR MISERY!

THEN YOU MUST
DIE! OUR RACE
CANNOT BE
DESTROYED
IN THE
FLOOD!

NO! I HAVE
SERVED YOU—
OBEYED YOU—
YOU CAN'T
KILL ME!

SEIZE HIM!
HE MUST
NOT GET
AWAY!

NO
NO O O
O O O

ARAGHH!

AS THE BONY FINGERS OF THE CREATURES CRUSH AND TEAR ALL LIFE FROM CARL MORICH, THE RAIN STOPS!
AND AS TIME BEGINS AGAIN, THE FORCES OF EVIL FADE INTO THE BLACK VOID TO RETURN ANOTHER
WALPURGIS NIGHT...!

WE SHALL COME BACK! EVIL
MUST ALWAYS THRIVE IN THE MINDS
OF MAN! WE SHALL COME... BACK.

THE CLOCKS ARE
MOVING... WE
CAN LIVE AGAIN!!

WALPURGIS NIGHT
SHALL SOON BE OVER!!

AND IN THE CLOCKMAKING SHOP OF FREDERICK
KAFFNER THE MANY CLOCKS BEG'N TO TICK MERRILY
ABOVE THE BODY OF THEIR CREATOR--TICKING
CLOSER AND CLOSER TO ANOTHER WALPURGIS
NIGHT!

TICK... TICK...
TICK

THE
END

HOUSE OF BLOOD



IT STARTED WITH A SIMPLE LITTLE QUARREL AND ENDED IN FEAR AND HORROR! THE OLD HOUSE MIGHT HAVE BEEN WAITING TO POUNCE, LIKE SOME PREHISTORIC MONSTER, ON THE ILL-FATED COUPLE! SO IF IT'S THRILLS AND CHILLS YOU WANT, IF YOUR BLOOD NEEDS CURDLING, READ ON, IF YOU DARE! FOR THIS IS THE STORY OF THE MURDEROUS JOKE...

SUE AND JOHN TRENT ARE HAVING A VIOLENT QUARREL

I HATE YOU! I REALLY DO! YOU'RE STUBBORN AND, OH, I JUST SIMPLY HATE YOU!

YOU'RE NO BARGAIN, YOU KNOW! WHY DON'T YOU GO HOME TO MOTHER AS YOU'RE ALWAYS THREATENING TO DO!

A FEW MINUTES LATER...

MOTHER, THIS IS SUE! I'VE HAD A QUARREL WITH JOHN! I HATE HIM! I'M COMING FOR A VISIT WITH YOU!

SWELL WITH ME! I'LL EVEN DRIVE YOU!



BUT WHEN SUE GOES TO PACK

HELLO, MORRIS. JOHN TRENT / I WANT A FAVOR, / I'VE HAD A FIGHT WITH SUE AND I WANT TO TEACH HER A LESSON / YOU KNOW THE HAUNTED HOUSE ON SPRING ROAD, WELL...

HA HA / SOUNDS LIKE A GOOD IDEA, JOHN / GLAD TO DO IT / WE'LL GIVE HER A GOOD SCARE / SEE YOU THERE!

HA HA / JOHN SURE HAS A SENSE OF HUMOR! THIS WILL MAKE HIM LOOK LIKE A NERD / NOW IF I CAN BE A CONVINCING HOST!

LATER THAT NIGHT AS JOHN DRIVES SUE TO HER MOTHER'S HOUSE

JOHN, WHY ARE WE GOING THIS WAY? YOU'VE NEVER TAKEN THIS ROAD BEFORE?

IT'S A SHORT CUT, THAT'S WHY! I WANT TO GET RID OF YOU AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!

BUT ACCORDING TO PLAN... JOHN FINDS SOMETHING WRONG WITH THE CAR

NOW WHAT? BLAST IT! IT MUST BE THAT NEW IGNITION COIL / LISTEN TO IT SPLUTTER!

THIS IS FINE! A MILLION MILES FROM NOWHERE AND THE CAR STALLS!

THE CAR GLIDES TO A HALT BEFORE A DESERTED OLD MANSION THAT HAS THE REPUTATION OF BEING HAUNTED.

COME ON, IT'S STARTING TO RAIN! WE CAN TAKE COVER IN HERE!

I D-DON'T KNOW! YOU KNOW THE STORIES ABOUT THIS OLD HOUSE / WASN'T THERE A MURDER HERE?



CARRYING OUT HIS PLAN TO TEACH SUE A LESSON, JOHN TRENT PUSHES OPEN THE CREAKING DOOR

SUDDENLY

AS HE HAD EXPECTED, HIS WIFE LEAPS INTO HIS ARMS IN FEAR

HA HA 'MORRIS IS DOING A FINE JOB! THAT GROAN SOUNDED GHASTLY!

DON'T WORRY! PROBABLY ONLY THE WIND!

HOW COULD THAT HORRIBLE SOUND BE THE WIND? THERE ISN'T ANY WIND!

YES, I THINK A MURDER WAS COMMITTED HERE! SO WHAT? YOU BELIEVE IN GHOSTS?

I-I DON'T KNOW! I JUST KNOW THAT I DON'T LIKE IT HERE!

JOHN, LISTEN! W-WHAT WAS THAT?

HJH 'I DON'T KNOW!

Who-o-ee



JOHN! WHERE ARE YOU GOING? DON'T YOU DARE LEAVE ME ALONE!

I'M GOING UPSTAIRS! I'M NOT AFRAID OF GHOSTS EVEN IF YOU ARE, BUT I'M CURIOUS!

THE SCHEME IS WORKING! SUE FORGETS ABOUT GOING HOME TO MOTHER! SHE IS VERY IMPRESSED WITH JOHN'S COURAGE

JOHN, YOU'RE SO BRAVE, AND I'M SCARED TO DEATH!

AS THEY REACH THE TOP OF THE STAIRS

LOOK! A MAN'S LEGS STICKING OUT THAT DOOR! HE LOOKS D-DEAD!

GREAT SCOTT! I DIDN'T COUNT ON THIS!

THE BODY IS THAT OF MORRIS, JOHN'S FRIEND.

JOHN, THAT'S MORRIS SLATTERY, BUT HOW

I DON'T KNOW! BUT IT IS MORRIS, AND HE IS DEAD!

DON'T WORRY, SWEETHEART, I WON'T LET ANYTHING HAPPEN TO YOU!

SUE BEGINS TO SUSPECT SOMETHING FISHY.

WHAT'S GOING ON, JOHN TRENT? WHAT WAS MORRIS DOING HERE? WAS THAT SOME KIND OF A JOKE?

Y-YES 'B-BUT IT'S NO JOKE NOW! WE'VE GOT TO CALL THE POLICE!

WE WANTED TO SCARE YOU, DEAR! TO KEEP YOU FROM LEAVING ME! YOU KNOW HOW MUCH I REALLY LOVE YOU! BUT WHO COULD HAVE KILLED HIM?

JOHN! LOOK OUT! THAT OLD WOMAN

SUDDENLY, FROM BEHIND THEM, THERE IS A TERRIBLE CACKLING LAUGH

HUH! WHO ARE YOU? WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH THAT AXE?

HEH-HEH-HEH! YOU'LL FIND OUT SOON ENOUGH!

I KILLED YOUR FRIEND AND I'M GOING TO KILL YOU! JUST THE WAY I KILLED THE OTHERS!

SUE, TERRIFIED OUT OF HER WITS, RUNS FOR THE DOOR

JOHN! RUN, RUN! SHE'S INSANE!

SAVE YOURSELF! I'LL HOLD HER UNTIL YOU GET TO THE CAR! THEN I'LL JOIN YOU!

BUT SUE SLIPS ON THE CRUMBLING OLD STAIRS

EEEEEEK!
FALLING!

AND GOES CRASHING DOWN AS A HORRIBLE SCREAM RINGS OUT FROM THE ROOM ABOVE

OH, NO, PLEASE YAAAAA-

THERE IS A SNAPPING SOUND AS THE WOMAN'S FRAGILE NECK IS BROKEN

HEH-HEH I THOUGHT YOU COULD GET AWAY, DID YOU?

A TERRIBLE SILENCE DESCENDS ON THE OLD HOUSE, WHILE IN THE GORY ROOM ABOVE

HEE-HEE- DEAD AS A DOORNAIL, I CHOPPED HIM UP JUST LIKE THE OTHERS

THERE IS A SUDDEN WALL OF SIRENS IN THE NIGHT, AND OUTSIDE

HO-HO! THE POLICE AFTER ME AGAIN! THEY ALWAYS KNOW WHERE TO LOOK, CURSE THEM!

CAREFUL BOYS, YOU KNOW HOW CRAZY SHE IS

EASY NOW, GRANNY! GIVE ME THAT AXE!

COME ALONG NOW, YOU KNOW YOU HAVE TO GO BACK TO THE ASYLUM!

TAKE YOUR FILTHY HANDS OFF ME!

LATER AFTER THE BODIES HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO THE MORGUE AND THE OLD WOMAN RETURNED TO THE LUNATIC ASYLUM.

WHAT ON EARTH WERE THOSE PEOPLE DOING IN THAT OLD HOUSE?

WE'LL NEVER KNOW! BUT THE OLD LADY, THAT'S DIFFERENT! SHE GOES THERE EVERY TIME SHE ESCAPES FROM THE ASYLUM!

SHE MURDERED HER HUSBAND THERE YEARS AGO, THEN WENT INSANE! SHE STILL THINKS HER HUSBAND IS ALIVE AND LIVING IN THAT HOUSE! SHE ALWAYS GOES BACK TO KILL HIM! IF OTHER PEOPLE GET IN THE WAY, WELL.



SURE, AND THE MAN
WAS A FOOL TO MAKE
FRIENDS WITH ---

THE CREATURES

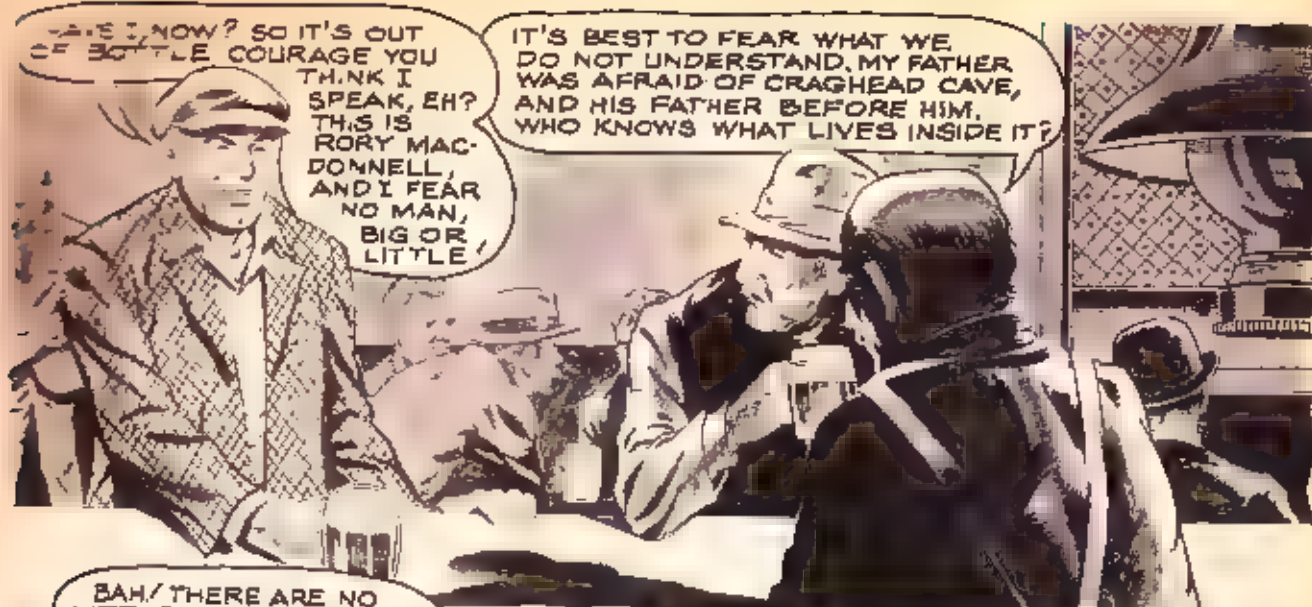


THEY TELL THE TALE
STILL ON SCOTTISH
MOORS NEAR THE TOWN
OF CRAGHEAD THE TALE
OF RORY MACDONNELL
AND THAT NIGHT AT THE
LION PUB, WHEN THE
TALK TURNED TO THINGS
NOT IN OUR KEN

LITTLE PEOPLE? LITTLE PEOPLE, IS
T? THERE ARE NO LITTLE PEOPLE!

RORY- HUSH
YOU'VE HAD
TOO MUCH
TO DRINK





...NOW? SO IT'S OUT
OF BOTTLE COURAGE YOU
THINK I
SPEAK, EH?
THIS IS
RORY MAC-
DONNELL,
AND I FEAR
NO MAN,
BIG OR
LITTLE!

IT'S BEST TO FEAR WHAT WE
DO NOT UNDERSTAND. MY FATHER
WAS AFRAID OF CRAGHEAD CAVE,
AND HIS FATHER BEFORE HIM,
WHO KNOWS WHAT LIVES INSIDE IT?

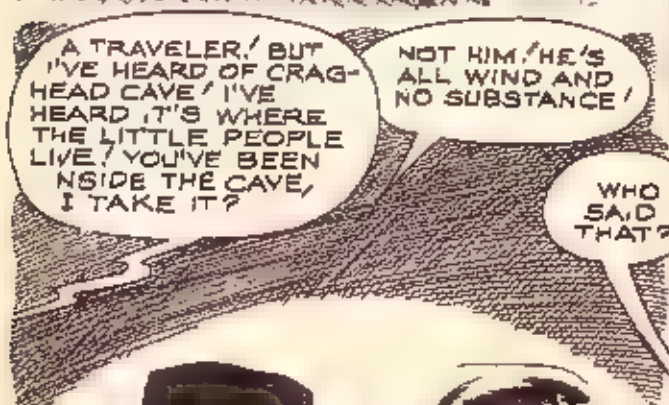


BAH! THERE ARE NO
LITTLE PEOPLE! AND IF
THERE WERE, I'D STILL
HAVE NO FEAR OF THEM!
D'YA HEAR THAT, LITTLE
MEN? IF YOU EXIST,
DO YOUR WORK!

HE PAID NO MIND TO THE STRANGER
WHO JUST THEN ENTERED! BUT THE
STRANGER MUST HAVE HEARD!

YOU'RE A MAN OF
RARE COURAGE, RORY
TO HEAR YOU TELL IT!
BUT IT SEEMS TO ME
THAT WORDS SHOULD
BE BACKED
BY DEEDS!

DOES IT, TRULY? YOU
KNOW MY NAME,
BUT JUST WHO
MIGHT YOU BE?



A TRAVELER! BUT
I'VE HEARD OF CRAG-
HEAD CAVE! I'VE
HEARD IT'S WHERE
THE LITTLE PEOPLE
LIVE! YOU'VE BEEN
INSIDE THE CAVE,
I TAKE IT?

NOT HIM! HE'S
ALL WIND AND
NO SUBSTANCE!

WHO
SAID
THAT?

WHAT MATTER? THEY'RE ONLY
VOICES IN A CROWD, RORY!
BUT WHY NOT SHOW THEM?
PROVE YOUR WORTH!
THE CAVE IS NOT
FAR!



AND D'YOU THINK I'M
AFTER PLAYIN' CHILDS
GAMES THIS TIME
OF N.GHT?

YOU MIGHT BE
HIDING YOUR FEAR
BEHIND THIS LOUD
BLATHER!

WORDS ARE CHEAP! WILL YOU
WAGER TWENTY SHILLINGS,
RORY MACDONNELL, THAT YOU
FEAR TO SPEND THIS NIGHT
IN CRAGHEAD CAVE?

THERE WERE THOSE WHO WAITED FOR RORY
TO REFUSE... THAT THEY MIGHT THROW HIS
BOASTING INTO HIS TEETH... NOW, THEN, COULD
HE SAY NO?

DONE! FOR TWENTY
SHILLINGS I'D FACE
THE DEVIL HIMSELF!

DONE IT IS,
THEN! AND WHO
KNOWS, PERHAPS
BEFORE THIS
NIGHT'S OVER
YOU'LL DO
JUST THAT

THEY POURED INTO
THE NIGHT THEN A
NOISY LAUGHING
CROWD! BUT THERE
WERE THOSE WITH
COOLER HEADS THAN
THE REST!

THERE IT IS, RORY!
PERHAPS THE TALES
ARE ONLY THAT, TALES!
BUT PERHAPS NOT! FOR-
GET THIS WAGER! NO
MAN HAS ENTERED
THE CAVE FOR
YEARS!

THAT'S BECAUSE
UNTIL TODAY, NO MAN
LIKE RORY MAC-
DONNELL HAS
PASSED THIS
WAY!

WELL SPOKEN, MAC
DONNELL, BUT OUR WAGER
WAS THAT YOU SPEND
THE NIGHT INSIDE!

AND I WILL! I'LL
BRING YOU BACK A
LITTLE MAN FOR
A PET!

ONLY A MAN IN HIS CURS
WOULD HAVE GONE ON
THEN! CRAGHEAD CAVE
WAS DOUR AND FORBID-
DING! BUT RORY MAC-
DONNELL PLUNGED INTO
THAT EMPTY BLACK-
NESS!

THE COLD IS
ENOUGH TO
FREEZE A MAN'S
BONES!

COLD? THIS WAS NOT COLD, BUT FEAR THAT CHILLED MAC DONNELL! YET HE WENT ON, FEARING THE LAUGHTER OF HIS FRIENDS MORE THAN HE FEARED THE CAVE! SUDDENLY, HE WAS UPON THEM!

THE LITTLE PEOPLE! THE TALES ARE NOT JUST TALES! THEY EXIST!

WOULD YOU RUN, THEN, MAN? FROM WHAT? WE W SH YOU NO HARM! WE SHALL NOT PUT A HAND ON YOL! MY WORD ON IT! COME DRINK WITH US!

UGLY, THEY WERE! HORRIBLE! SOME LIKE TOADS! OTHERS LIKE NOTHING THAT LIVES! BUT, THEY SMILED! THEY WERE FRIENDLY! AND WHAT WAS IN THOSE FLASKS WAS LIKE A MAGNET TO RORY MAC DONNELL!

THAT MAKES THINGS BETTER, EH? DRINK DEEPLY! WHY NOT? YOU ARE AMONG FRIENDS, RORY MAC DONNELL!

IT'S ALMOST SOBER YOL ARE! A BAD STATE FOR SUCH A MAN AS YOU! DRINK WITH US!

THERE WAS NO MAGIC! THIS WAS NO EVIL! THESE LITTLE MEN THEY KNEW THEIR BETTERS! SO, REASONED RORY MACDONNELL! THE HOURS SPED BY, AND IT SEEMED TO HIM HE WAS A KING!

FRIENDS?

I HAVE TOLD YOU, NOT A FINGER SHALL TOUCH YOU! COME, JOIN THE DANCE! BE GAY, BE HAPPY! WHAT ELSE IS THERE IN LIFE?

IT IS A GOOD LIFE WE LEAD, IS IT NOT, RORY MAC DONNELL? IT SUITS YOU WELL!

WELL ENOUGH! SO LONG AS YOU KEEP YOUR PLACE! THE NIGHT HAS BEEN PLEASANT! A PITY IT WILL SOON BE DAWN! THEN I MUST LEAVE!

BUT THERE WILL BE OTHER NIGHTS! 'TIS A GREAT ADMIRATION WE HAVE FOR YOU, MAC DONNELL! WILL YOU BE ONE OF US, THEN?

THAT I WILL! HERE'S MY HAND ON IT!

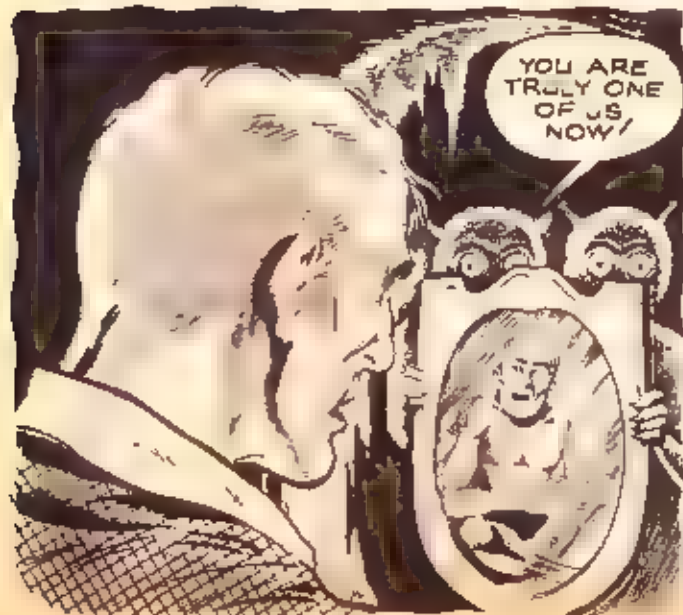
IT SEEMED TO RORY THAT THERE WAS A GREAT RUSTLING SOUND OF WINGS! THEN, IT SEEMED TO HIM THAT THE FIRE-LIGHT DIED. THAT THE UGLY FACES AROUND HIM TWISTED AND SNARLED



WHAT... IS IT? THE WINE? IT'S CLOUDED MY EYES! YOU... YOU SEEM DIFFERENT, TALLER!

TALLER? WE ARE NOT TALLER, MACDONNELL! WE HAVE NOT CHANGED, BUT YOU HAVE!

DID YOU NOT SAY THAT YOU WISHED TO BE ONE OF US? COURAGE DESERVES A REWARD MAC DONNELL! EVEN THE COURAGE OF A BRAGGART!

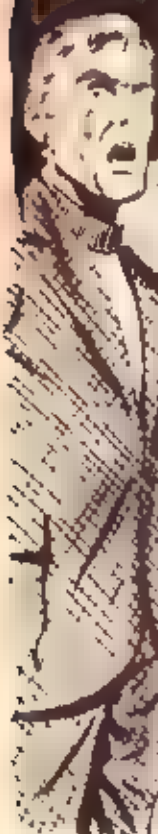


YOU ARE TRULY ONE OF US NOW!

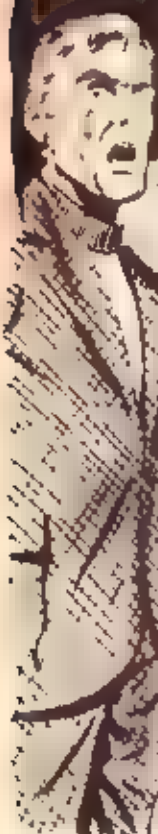
GONE WAS THE HANDSOME BODY! GONE, THE POWERFUL SHOULDERS, THE MASSIVE ARMS! WHAT WAS REFLECTED IN THE WEIRD, STRANGELY WORKED GLASS WAS... HORROR! MAC DONNELL SCREAMED AND RAN!

THE LITTLE PEOPLE DO EXIST, DO THEY NOT, MAC DONNELL?



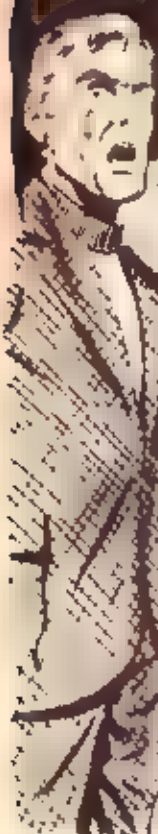


THE WAY WAS DARK,
THE ROCKS SHARP!
MAC DONNELL MUST
HAVE STUMBLER
OFTEN! HE BLEED
WHEN HE REACHED
THE MOUTH OF THE
CAVE AT LAST! AND
IN THE EYES OF
THOSE WHO WAITED
HE SAW THAT THIS
WAS NO DREAM!



RORY! WHAT'S IT?
WHAT HAPPENED
IN THERE?

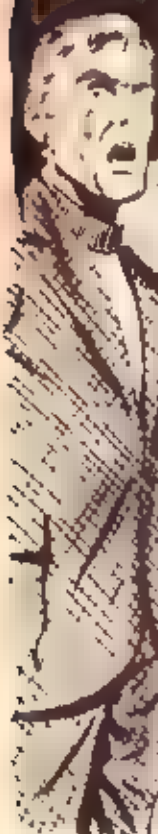
RORY, DON'T
YOU KNOW
US?



IT WAS THEN THAT RORY CHARGED! KNOWING
ONLY ONE THING: THAT HE MUST GET AWAY FROM
THOSE STARING EYES! NOW COULD HE KNOW
THAT THE GLASS HAD LIED!

THAT BLOOD!
WHAT HAPPENED
TO YOU

LOOK OUT!
THE MAN'S
GONE DAFT!



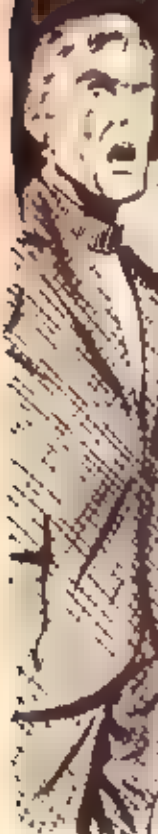
IT WAS A MADMAN WHO
CHARGED AND RAVED ABOUT
WHAT THE LITTLE PEOPLE
HAD DONE TO HIM!

HE'S LOST HIS MIND!
HE THINKS HE'S BECOME
ONE OF THE LITTLE
PEOPLE! HE REALLY
THINKS HE'S
FOUND THEM!

PERHAPS HE
D'D WHO
KNOWS?

POOR LAD! HE'S
INSANE! HE'LL NEVER
BE TELLING THE TRUTH
OF WHAT HE SAW IN
CRAGHEAD CAVE,
NOW, WILL HE?

THE STRANGER
WALKED AWAY,
THEN! AND IT
SEEMED THAT
HE CHANGED,
BUT NO ONE NOTICED!
SO THE TALE IS TOLD.



DRUNK HE WAS! PER-
HAPS HE IMAGINED IT
ALL! BUT HE SHOULDN'T
HAVE CHALLENGED THE
LITTLE PEOPLE! I'VE
HEARD IT SAID THAT
THEY NEVER RE-
FUSE A CHALLENGE!

THE
END

CRAGHEAD CAVE BROODS
UNDISTURBED TO THIS
DAY! AND, WHO IS TO SAY
WHAT REALLY HAPPENED
TO RORY MAC DONNELL?

Superstitions

TO DRINK WATER OUT OF THE FOOTPRINT MADE BY A VICIOUS ANIMAL MEANS ONE CAN BE TRANSFORMED INTO THAT ANIMAL... OR SO CERTAIN EUROPEANS BELIEVE.



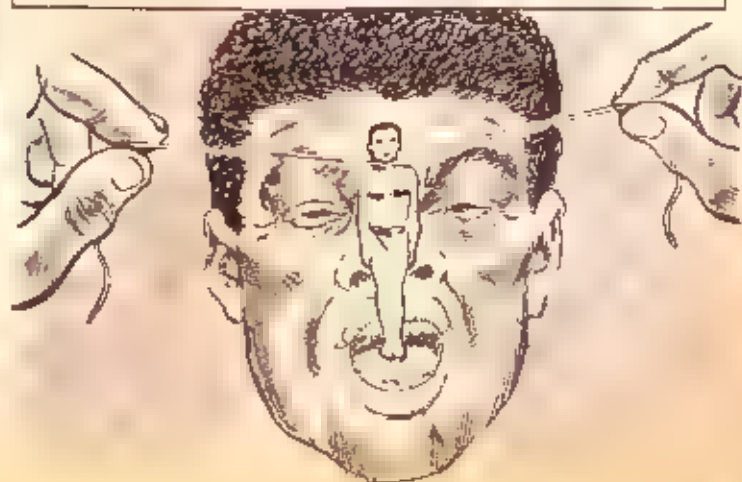
IN THE ORIENT THE OPAL IS THOUGHT OF AS A GEM OF GOOD FORTUNE PROTECTING ITS WEARER FROM DISEASE AND THE EVIL DESIGNS OF ENEMIES.



IN MANY PARTS OF NEW ENGLAND SUPERSTITION HAS IT THAT WITCHES STILL LIVE BEFORE THE DEVIL AND PLAY BLACK DEEDS OF TERROR.



IT IS BELIEVED BY TRIBES DEEP IN THE AFRICAN CONTINENT THAT ONE CAN KILL A PERSON BY TYING KNOTS AROUND VULNERABLE SPOTS ON A DUMMY OF THAT PERSON...



TOMB OF OGRES



GREAT
SCOTT,
CAPTAIN!
WHAT
IS IT?

WHAT
DIFFERENCE
DOES IT MAKE?
WHATEVER IT
IS WE'VE
GOT TO
KILL IT!

THE STORM STRUCK SUDDENLY!
HIGH OVER THE PACIFIC, IT
GRIPPED THE PLANE AND TOSSED
IT ABOUT! WHEN THE ISL. AND
APPEARED BELOW, CAPTAIN
ROBERT BRONSON DID HIS
BEST TO LAND...

ONLY THE PILOTS AND TWO
OTHER SURVIVORS EMERGED
FROM THE SHATTERED
WRECKAGE

CAPTAIN!
THE
OTHERS...

THEY'RE
DEAD!
WE MAY AS
WELL BE TOO!
ACCORDING
TO THE CHARTS
--THIS ISLAND
DOESN'T
EXIST!

UNLESS IT'S ONE OF THE
VANISHING ISLANDS!
OCCASIONALLY--AN
UNDERWATER
DISTURBANCE
HEAVES A
PEAK ABOVE
THE SURFACE...
THEN AFTER
A WHILE--IT
SINKS AGAIN.

THEN--
WE'LL
DROWN!
YOU'RE
RESPON-
SIBLE!



I DIDN'T ORDER THIS STORM! I **DIDN'T** CONK OUT TWO OF MY ENGINES DELIBERATELY

W. WHAT HAPPENED?
OH... MY MINK

MINK CAPES ARE THE **LEAST** OF OUR WORRIES RIGHT NOW, MISS STANTON. YOU NEED SHELTER! THERE'S A PILE OF ROCKS OVER THERE. CAN YOU MAKE IT?

OF COURSE I CAN MAKE IT, CAPTAIN! YOU'RE VERY KIND!

CAPTAIN BRONSON WAS **40** MAN! HE WANTED TO GET HER AWAY FROM THOSE CORPSES!

IT IS **INCREDIBLE!** WHO COULD'VE PLACED THEM LIKE THIS?

WHO KNOWS? ATLANTIS WAS ONCE SOMEWHERE. THIS PART OF THE PACIFIC MAYBE PART OF IT HAS REAPPEARED!

THERE WAS AN **EEERINESS**, A BROODING, TIMELESS SOMETHING IN THE AIR AT THAT SPOT!

CAPTAIN! THAT SLAB T...IT'S **MOVING!**

I PROBABLY TOUCHED SOMETHING!

W. A MINUTE BRONSON. THESE **AREN'T** JUST ROCKS! THEY'RE **HUGE** ROCKS CUT TO **SHAPE!**

THE GREAT MASS RUMBLED, MOVED, SLID UPWARD, AND

T-THERE'S A FLIGHT OF STARS. **WHERE** CAN THEY LEAD?

I WISH I KNEW!

I KNOW! I NOTICED! AND THAT'S A BUILDING AHEAD OF US... OR THE **REMAINS** OF ONE

AT LEAST IT'S SHELTER FROM THIS DOWNPOUR! AND I'VE GOT **THIS!** COME ON

NO! IT MIGHT BE **DANGEROUS!**

DON'T BE A FOOL!
THERE'S MORE
DANGER OUT
HERE FROM
PNEUMONIA!

THE CAPTAIN
IS RIGHT LET'S
DO AS HE
SAYS.

IT'S HARD TO
PLACE THE
ERA OF THESE
CARVINGS!

THAT DOESN'T
CONCERN ME!
I'VE JUST
REALIZED
SOMETHING,
I... I THINK WE'RE
LOST!

THEY WENT INTO THE
BLACKNESS! IT WAS
SHEEHAN WHO FOUND
THE CARVING... BUT THE
CAPTAIN DISCOVERED
SOMETHING MORE
OMINOUS!

LOST! IN
THIS
HORRIBLE
PLACE?
OH NO!

BRONSON!
LOOK!

UGH! WHAT
A PITY'S
NAME IS
THAT?

I DON'T KNOW!
W. WHAT A
HORROR!
IT TURNS MY
STOMACH TO
LOOK AT IT!

IT'S GOING
BACK
BRONSON
IT WALKS
LIKE A MAN!

IT IS NOT A
MAN! MAYBE
MEN, TRAPPED
IN A PLACE LIKE
THIS WOULD
EVOLVE INTO
SOMETHING
LIKE THAT,
EVENTUALLY!
BUT IT
ISN'T
A MAN!

CAPTAIN, DO YOU THINK
THAT... THAT **FREAK**
IS A DESCENDENT
OF THE PEOPLE
OF ATLANTIS?

IT
COULD
BE!

BUT, I DO KNOW THIS!
IF THAT THING SHOWS
ITSELF AGAIN... WE
KILL IT!

AGREED!
WE **KILL**
IT!

THERE WERE HOURS OF SEARCH-
ING FOR A WAY OUT! THEN...

CAPTAIN!

I SEE IT!
DON'T
MOVE!
IT'S BEEN
PLAYING
CAT AND
MOUSE
WITH US
BUT THE
GAME
IS OVER

IT...IT ISN'T POSSIBLE.
THERE CAN'T BE ANYTHING
THAT THAT UGLY!

BRONSON!
THERE ARE
MORE OF
THEM!

MISS STANTON
GET BEHIND
US



SOME OF THE THINGS
DIED, BUT THE OTHERS
CAME ON, MUTTERING,
GROWLING, HATING,
WEAPONLESS BUT
THEY HAD FINGERS
TO CLAW WITH,
TALONS TO
TEAR WITH!

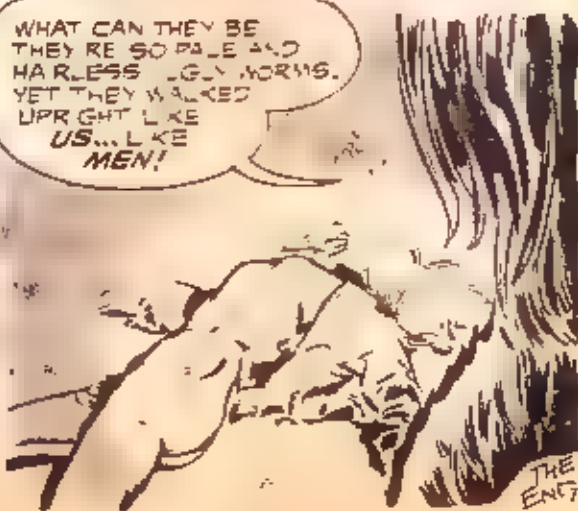


IT WAS SOON
OVER! THREE
HUMANS DIED!
AND, SO, THEY
NEVER KNEW
THE IRONY OF
THEIR FATE!
EVEN, HAD
THEY BEEN
ABLE TO HEAR,
THEY WOULD
NOT OF
UNDERSTOOD
THE GIBBERISH
SOUNDS THAT
CAME AFTER!

THEY ARE DEAD! WHERE COULD
SUCH VICIOUS ANIMALS HAVE
COME FROM?



WHAT CAN THEY BE
THEY'RE SO PALE AND
HARLESS... LIKE WORMS.
YET THEY WALKED
UPRIGHT LIKE
US... LIKE
MEN!



THE
END

Y... NAME S CHARLE
PA... AN ORD NARY GUY
B... YOU HAD DREAMS OF
S...ETH NG MORE! THAT
S... YOUR TROUBLE

TEAR HIM APART



HELP! PUT
ME DOWN!
AIIIEEE!!

THIS WAS YOU AT ONE TIME
WITH YOUR BEES, NOT A CARE IN
THE WORLD!

COME OUT
YOU RASCALS!
YOU KNOW
YOUR FR END
DON'T YOU!
HA HA!

AND HERE YOU IS YOUR EMPLOYER
A HEALTHY, CHARMING AND JUST
WON-AN

HEY CHARLE
HYAR CONNIE
M SS CAROL!

YEAH
OKAY
JOB!



PLUS-CAROL LEIGHTON WAS A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN!

HELLO, BOYS! HOW
IS EVERYTHING
GOING?

HOWDY, MISS
CAROL! JUST
FINE!!

AND REMEMBER HOW PROUD
YOU WERE CHARLIE WHEN
SHE TOOK AN INTEREST IN
YOU!

HEAR THEIR
DEEP BUZZIN?
THAT MEANS
THEY'RE STRONG
AND HEALTHY!

UH, YES!
WELL I'M
GLAD
YOU'RE
TAKING
SUCH
GOOD
CARE OF
THEM!

IN GENERAL, I FIND EVERY-
THING WELL-TENDED! I'M
VERY PLEASED,
BOYS. YOU'LL
ALL FIND A
BOX IN YOUR
PAYCHECKS

THAT'S
SURE DE-
CENT OF
VOL. MISS
CAROL!

AND YOU,
CHARLIE, ARE
THE BEE-HIVES
IN GOOD
CONDITION?

IN TOP
CONDITION
MA'AM!
LOOK
I'LL SHOW
YOU!



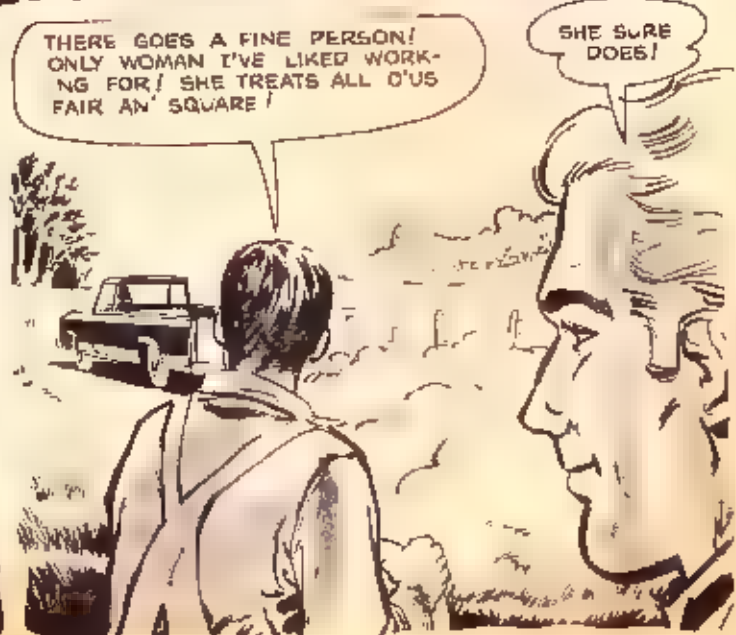
THEN WHEN SHE SINGLE'D YOU OUT AGAIN,
CHARLIE, YOUR HEART ALMOST STOPPED
BEATING!

WELL, GOODBYE BOYS!
I'LL BE OVER NEXT SATUR-
DAY! TAKE SPECIAL CARE
OF THE BEES, CHARLIE

I WILL,
MISS
CAROL!

THERE GOES A FINE PERSON!
ONLY WOMAN I'VE LIKED WORK-
ING FOR! SHE TREATS ALL O'US
FAIR AN' SQUARE!

SHE SURE
DOES!



THE NIGHT YOU FELT PRETTY
DUE TO HER BEAUTY HAD
AFFECTED YOU...

BE SURE IS NICE! OH IF
ONLY I WERE ATTRACTIVE TO
HER! WE COULD MARRY.



WHAT WAS THAT? NOW HOW
D'YA SUPPOSE ANY O'MY
BEES GOT INSIDE MY
SHACK?

BUZZZ-Z-Z-



THEN IT HAPPENED CHARLIE!
YOUR BEES PAID YOU A VISIT!

THEY'RE GROWING! - MUST
BE MY IMAGINATION! IT'S
GOTTA BE!



IT WAS CRAZY, FANTASTIC! BUT YOU WERE
LIVING IT!

YOU WILL COME WITH
US, CHARLIE PATCH!

G-GET AWAY
FROM ME! N-NO!
DON'T!-



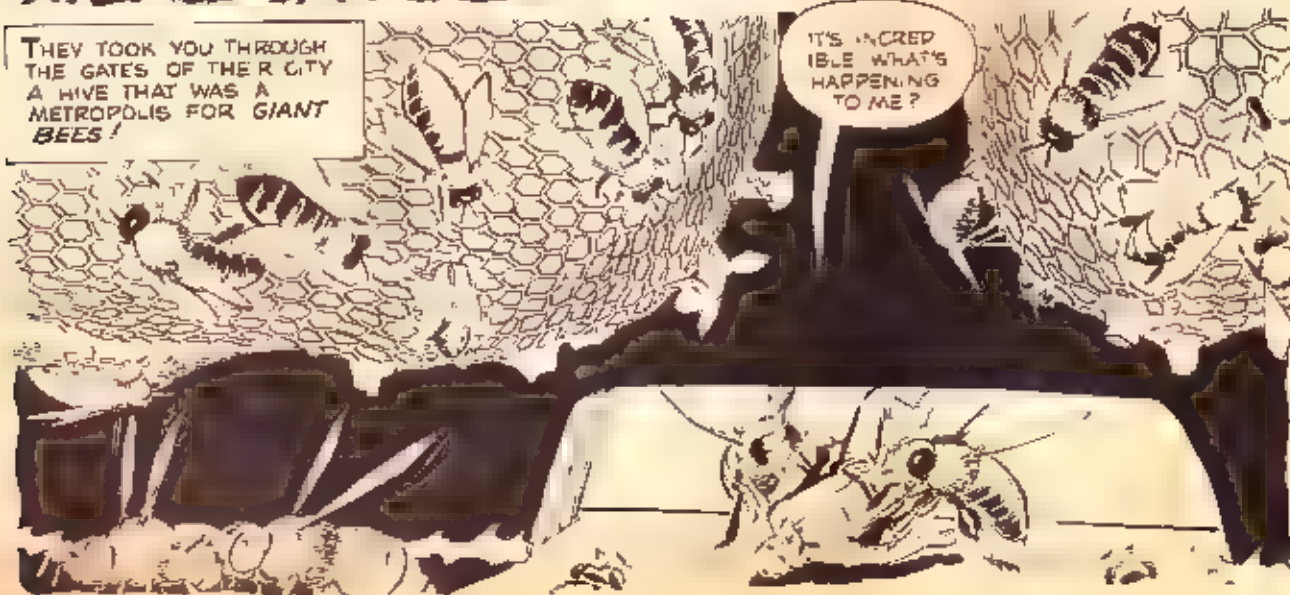
WE CANNOT DELAY
AN INSTANT! WE
MUST HURRY!

LET ME DOWN!
HELP HELP!!
AAAAIEEE!!!



THEY TOOK YOU THROUGH
THE GATES OF THE CITY
A HIVE THAT WAS A
METROPOLIS FOR GIANT
BEES!

IT'S INCRED-
IBLE WHAT'S
HAPPENING
TO ME?



THEY LED YOU THROUGH MAZE AFTER MAZE... PASSAGEWAY AFTER PASSAGEWAY... UNTIL YOU STOOD BEFORE THE MOST BEAUTIFUL CREATURE YOU HAD EVER SEEN!

WELCOME, CHARLIE PATCH! IN RETURN FOR YOUR LIFE-LONG SERVICES YOU SHALL BECOME MY MATE!

B-BUT... I... THIS IS INSANE! I'M ONLY A WORKER... A... A DRONE YOU MIGHT SAY! AND YOU'RE A... QUEEN!

YOU DO US A GREAT INJUSTICE MAJESTY! YOU SINGLE OUT AN INSIGNIFICANT DRONE! BZZZZ!

SILENCE! I HAVE SPOKEN! PREPARE HIM FOR THE CORONATION!!

SO, IN A FEW MOMENTS, YOU WERE TAKEN TO A SPECIAL CHAMBER TO BE DRESSED FOR THE CEREMONY...

IT'S NOT RIGHT FOR YOU TO BE CHOSEN OVER US! WE WILL NOT PERMIT IT!

NO! IT... WASN'T MY DOING! AAAGHH!

THESE WORKER BEES DON'T MIND ME AT ALL... BUT THE DRONES... -THEY'RE ANGRY!

BZZZZZZZ

YOU SHALL NOT LIVE! SURROUND HIM, BROTHERS! STIFLE HIM WITH OUR WINGS! STING HIM TO DEATH!

AAAEEEEEE!!

ONE BY ONE, THE HUGE FURRY STINGERS PLUNGED INTO YOUR BODY, FILLING YOU WITH THEIR VENOM! THE DARKNESS CLOSED IN... YOU WERE FALLING... FALLING...

NO DON'T!! Y...A...AHHH! WH...WHA...? WHERE AM I? OHKH... I MUST HAVE BEEN DREAMING! BRRR...!

NEVER IN ALL MY YEARS HAVE I
 SEEN SUCH A WHOPPER! IMAGINE
 BEE STINGING ME TO DEATH!
 ... WHERE WOULD A FELLA
 LIKE ME HAVE HALF A CHANCE
 WITH MISS CAROL?



THE NEXT MORNING, YOU GOT A MESSAGE FROM THE MANSION
 ...AND THE OTHER WORKERS NOTICED IT, DIDN'T THEY?

YOU SURE SHE WANTS ME TO
 COME UP THERE? I... I'M KINDA
 RIGHT NOW! CAN SHE WAIT WHILE
 I PUT ON SOME DECENT THINGS?

YEAH, CHARLIE! SHE'D
 LIKE THAT! SHE KEEPS
 MENTIONING YOUR
 NAME! HA, HA...



YOU FELT GOOD TO BE CLEAN...
 AND YOU **RELISHED** THE IDEA
 OF BEING WITH CAROL LEIGHTON!

SO THAT'S WHY
 I ASKED YOU UP
 HERE, CHARLIE!
 THE FAIR IS
 VERY IMPORTANT
 TO ME - BOTH
 IN PRESTIGE
 AND IN MONEY
 TO BE WON!

DON'T
 WORRY,
 MISS CAROL!
 MY BEE-
 HIVES'LL
 BE THE
 BEST IN
 THE
 COUNTRY!



... AND, CHARLIE
 ... ALWAYS
 DRESS LIKE THAT!
 YOU'RE NOT
 BAD LOOKING,
 YOU KNOW
 I NEED A
 BODYGUARD
 AROUND THE
 HOUSE... YOU
 MIGHT FIT
 THE BILL...!

THANK
 Y'KINDLY
 MA'AM
 I'D LIKE
 THAT!



SO YOU WALKED OUT OF THE
 BIG MANSION, LIGHT IN HEART,
 FLOATING ON THE CLOUDS...
 SWIMMING IN THE THOUGHT
 OF CAROL LEIGHTON!

WHO EVER SAID DREAMS DON'T
 COME TRUE?



HELLO, YOU POOR RANNIES
 WORK YOUR HEADS OFF! I
 GOT ME A BETTER JOB...
 IN THERE!

YOU KNOW RUFF!
 SEEMS CHARLIE IS
 GETTING TOO BIG
 FER HIS BRITCHES!
 HE GOT NO RIGHT
 TO HOB NOB WITH
 MISS CAROL! SHE'LL
 BE PAYING ALL
 HER ATTENTION
 TO HIM... AND
 WE'LL GET NO
 MORE PAY-
 RAISES!

YEAH! CALL
 THE BOYS
 T'GETHER!
 HE AINT
 GOING TO
 BE WITH
 US FER
 LONG!



THAT'S IT FELLAS!
 -TEAR HIM
 APART!



YES, CHARLIE... YOUR DREAM **DID** COME TRUE!

THE END



